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### **OPINION METER**

This week's poll: How much do you intend to spend on back-to-school supplies this year?

Let your voice be heard! Go to www.saipantribune.com to cast your vote.

### INSIDE



### **Plane Crash**

A Boeing 737 jetliner crashes and breaks apart on a Caribbean island, killing one.

WORLD...Page 16



### **Back to School**

By August, summertime is winding down, signaling that back-to-school

CAMPUS LIFE...Page 18



**New Miss U** 

Miss Universe 2009 Stefania Fernandez says it's clear in her mind who'll replace her.

LIFE & STYLE...Page 20

## Neo Gold Wings told to vacate Tinian public land, pay \$106,043

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO haidee\_eugenio@saipantribune.com REPORTER

The Department of Public Lands gave Neo Gold Wings Paradise

five days from Aug. 6 to vacate leases. a public land on Tinian for noncompliance with the terms and conditions of its land lease, and pay \$106,043.64 for unpaid land

DPL's "notice to vacate public land on Tinian" came over a month after the June 29 official termination of the lease deal

between DPL and Neo Gold M. Babauta said they have not Wings, whose plan to build a \$1 billion casino resort on Tinian failed to materialize.

Public Lands Secretary Oscar

heard from Neo Gold Wings, a Korean group of investors, as of yesterday.

SEE NEO on Page 4

HERE FOR R&R

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

The guided-missile USS Crommelin docks at the Port of Saipan in Lower Base yesterday morning,

bringing with it over 200 officers and crew for a

Chamber of Commerce, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, the Office of the Governor, the Commonwealth

three-day rest and recreation on Saipan. The Saipan

Ports Authority, and the Military and Veterans Affairs Office will host a dinner for the USS Crommelin officers and crew at the Hard Rock Cafe tonight.

# Flexi work hour cuts, salary hikes

- Froilan says leadership has the votes
- Diego to members: Vote with your conscience
- PSS, NMC ask lawmakers for more money

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

ith barely six weeks to go before the start of fiscal year 2011, the House of Representatives again held off action on a revised budget bill that gives salary increases to some officials, more discretionary funds for lawmakers and no funding for the Board of Education, while at the same time giving department heads flexibility to cut work hours and personnel.



### Froilan raps prior Legislature for current 'mess' terday the

- Diego: It was during Froilan's term when NMI spent most
- Tenorio: Rota, Tinian employees should be the first to go

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO haidee\_eugenio@saipantribune.com

House Speaker Froilan C. Teno-now," referring to the current fi-rio said in an interview. rio (Cov-Saipan) blamed yes- nancial problems.



as "the cur-Tenorio

rent mess

previous

Legisla-

ture for

what he

described

"I hate it that whenever there's a problem, the Obama administration will blame the Bush administration. But I had to do the same. I want to blame the previous Legislature for the mess we're in now. For a long time, there's no revenue-generating legislation passed," Teno-

## 'Head Start travel issues still unresolved'

By MONETH G. DEPOSA

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the federal agency that funds the CNMI Head Start program, has warned the Public School System that unresolved problems related to Start program. **SEE FROILAN on Page 4** its travels may have an adverse

effect on the program.

Saipan Tribune learned that Chitra Verma of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services wrote PSS early this month, pressuring it to address concerns raised in previous audit reports for the Head

SEE HEAD START on Page 4

## Red Cross gears up for Swinging '60s Club 200 in October. PAGE 6 Fund pays out \$527.2M in benefits in 10 years. PAGE 7



## Local

## 'Let full House act on extending private land leases from 55 to 99 years'

DOCOMO PACIFIC

REPORTER

The House Committee on Natural Resources recommends that



the full House membership decide on a Senate legislative initiative extending private land leases from the existing 55 years to 99 years, citing the controversial nature of the proposal.

It said the Legislature has deliberated extensively on the issue of extending private leaseholds, as well as public leaseholds, over the last nine years.

"Previous legislation indicates that the idea is not a new one and that the issue remains a controversial one. Therefore, the committee strongly recommends that the full membership of the House shall decide upon Senate Legislative Initiative No. 17-4, SD1," the committee said.

Sen. Luis Crisostimo's (D-Saipan) SLI 17-4 proposes to amend Article XII Sections 3 and 5 of the CNMI Constitution to change the term permanent and long-term interests in real property and to change the definition of a Northern Marianas descent corporation.

The measure requires a three-fourths vote from the House. The Senate passed the initiative in March.

House Natural Resources Committee chair Rep. Teresita A. Santos (Ind-Rota) recused herself from voting on the measure, citing conflict of interest.

Only five of the eight committee members, including vice chair Rep. Ray Palacios (Cov-Saipan) signed the committee report dated July 26. The others who signed it include House minority leader Diego Benavente (R-Saipan), floor leader George Camacho (Ind-Saipan), Rep. Trenton Conner (R-Tinian), and Rep. Sylvester Iguel (Cov-Saipan).

Besides Santos, the others who did not sign the report are Reps. Ray Tebuteb (R-Saipan) and Stanley Torres (Ind-Saipan).

Besides extending private land leases, the initiative also changes the definition of an NMD corporation, from an entity with directors who are 100 percent to only 51 percent persons of Northern Marianas descent.

The committee said that economic and social conditions have substantially changed since these restrictions were enacted; ineffective for their original purpose and instead create a hindrance to the economic development of the CNMI.

"Extending the term permanent and long-term period from 55 to 99 years will facilitate banking and lending institutions in funding major development loans, mortgages, etc., and enhance business opportunities in the Commonwealth," it added.

Over the years, proposals to extend permissible term for private land leases in the CNMI have been unsuccessful.

Previous supporters, including the governor's Strategic Economic Development Council, had described an earlier proposal to extend it to 75 years as "perhaps the most important policy change needed for tourism enhancement."

## Landowner wants to evict water company

A landowner has asked the Superior Court to order a water company to vacate a leased property in Kannat Tabla if it fails to pay alleged past due rent.

George Litulumar Teregeyo also asked the court to order Saipan Cool Water and Ice Inc. pay double the rent for the alleged unlawful holdover period and for other rent past due.

Saipan Tribune left a message with Saipan Cool Water for comments, but no one called back as of press time.

Teregeyo, through counsel Richard W. Pierce, stated in the complaint that Saipan Cool Water leased from him a land containing 892 square meters es to do so. (Ferdie de la Torre)

for a term of 25 years beginning December 2007.

Teregeyo and the company, however, amended the lease twice-October 2008 and December 2008. The lawyer said the defendant leased additional land from Teregeyo, which is adjacent to the first premises.

Pierce said the company paid the agreed rent of \$600 per month for many months but since February 2010, the company ceased to do so and refused to pay rent for the general lease.

Pierce said the plaintiff terminated the lease for the company's failure to pay rent, despite notic-

## Crisostimo reappointed to Fund board

Acting governor Eloy Inos has reappointed Jerry P. Crisostimo as a member of the NMI Retirement Fund board of trustees representing Saipan.

Inos, in his letter to Senate President Paul A. Manglona, said Crisostimo's appointment is for a four-year term.

Once confirmed by the Senate, he will occupy the position until Sept. 25, 2014.

this important board," Inos told Tudela. (Moneth G. Deposa)

Manglona, adding that the résumé of the appointee, statement of financial interest, and drug test receipt will be forwarded to the Senate once they are available.

Crisostimo is the board's former vice chairman and has been the acting chairman from Aug. 12 through 19 following the leave of chairman Sixto Igisomar.

Other members of the sevenmember board of trustees in-"The governor and I are confi- clude Pedro Dela Cruz, Bernadent that Mr. Crisostimo is highly dita Palacios, Adelina Roberto, qualified and will be an asset on Francisco Rosario, and Marian





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The following are the em-

ployer contributions collected

by the Fund in previous fiscal

years: FY 2009, \$37.7 million;

FY 2008, \$49.8 million; FY

2007, \$58.1 million; FY 2006,

\$40.7 million; FY 2005, \$40.2

million; FY 2004, \$59.6 mil-

lion; FY 2003, \$39.3 million;

FY 2002, \$37.4 million; FY

2001, \$38.3 million; and FY

The number of members in the

defined contribution plan shows

an increase in the last two fiscal

Rebonding or Perming Services
Free Hot Oil Treatment

2000, \$36.7 million.

increase

**DC** membership

### Fund pays out \$527.2M in benefits in 10 years

### » Employer contributions total \$438.2M from FY 2000 to 2009

By MONETH G. DEPOSA moneth\_deposa@yahoo.com

The NMI Retirement Fund has paid out a total of \$527.2 million in benefits to members in the last 10 fiscal years—from 2000 through 2009—while overall employer contributions collected in the same period amounted to just \$438.2 million.

A recent independent audit conducted on the Fund showed that the agency was most generous in fiscal year 2009 when it made the highest benefit payments to members, totaling \$68.1 million.

Of that amount, retired members got \$55.7 million; survivors were paid \$5.7 million; death benefits totaled \$62,291; disability payments, \$1.7 million; and total refunds to members, \$4.8 million.

In fiscal year 2008, total benefits paid was \$67.6 million, broken down into \$54.8 million for retirees; \$5.2 million for survivors; \$5.5 million for refunds; \$1.8 million for disability payments; and \$55,827

for death benefits.

In fiscal year 2007, total benefits paid out amounted to \$63.8 million: retirees, \$51.6 million; survivors, \$4.9 million; refunds, \$5.3 million; disability, \$1.8 million; and death benefits, \$57,895.

Benefits paid in FY 2006 totaled \$60.2 million, a big bulk of which went to retirees, at \$49 million; survivors, \$4.7 million; refunds, \$4.5 million; and disability and death payments, \$1.7 million and \$60,628 respectively.

In fiscal year 2005, the Fund paid out \$51.7 million in total benefits to members. Retirees got \$43.2 million while survivors were paid \$4.1 million. Refunds paid to members was at \$2.9 million, disability payments totaled \$1.4 million, and death benefits reached \$48,651.

Total benefits paid out in previous fiscal years are as follows: FY 2004, \$48.4 million; FY 2003. \$45.8 million; FY 2002, \$43 million; FY 2001, \$39.7 million; and FY 2000, 38.7 million.

### **Employer** contributions

The Fund also recorded a total of \$438.2 million in employer contributions from fiscal years 2000 through 2009, compared to total employee contributions of \$112.3 million in the same period.





years—from 841 to 1,787 in fiscal year 2009. The DC plan was created by

individual account retirement system for any person employed by the CNMI government. The Public Law 15-13 to provide an DC plan is a multi-employer

pension plan and is the single retirement program for all new employees whose employment began on or after Jan. 1, 2007.



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### **FLEXI**

From Page 1

The revised budget bill incorporates cuts in work hours, wage cuts, furloughs, reduction in force, or other means, "at the discretion of the expenditure authority."

It does not specify a 16-hour cut in salary per pay period and unpaid holidays.

However, the House leadership and the Fitial administration made it clear that inherent in Gov. Benigno R. Fitial's submission of \$132 million available for operations in FY 2011 are reducing the regular 80 work hours to 64 per pay period and unpaid holidays.

"What this bill does somehow is to wash our hands when we know that department heads will be forced to cut salaries by 25 percent a year, and that includes 16-hour cuts and unpaid holidays to live within the budget given to them," said House minority leader Diego T. Benavente (R-Saipan).

Rep. Ramon Basa (Cov-Saipan) introduced yesterday morning a substitute House Bill 17-96, a week after withdrawing his first substitute bill—mainly due to concerns by the Fitial administration that the measure as drafted is not balanced.

Benavente and Rep. Ray Yumul (R-Saipan) were ready to introduce floor amendments to the bill, but the House went on recess until 2pm yesterday.

When 2pm came, the House again called for a recess until 9am today to give members more time to review Basa's substitute bill, as well as the written floor amendments that Benavente and Yumul are proposing.

The bill adds a new section to temporarily amend the maximum annual salaries for six po-

For example, the Commerce secretary will have a salary cap of \$54,000 when the current salary given is some \$48,000; the governor's public information officer or press secretary will have a salary cap of \$54,000 when the current rate is some \$43,000; the special assistant for indigenous affairs, \$45,000; the attorney general, \$80,000; the public defender, \$70,000; and the governor and lieutenant governor's legal counsels, \$70,000.

Press secretary Angel Demapan, when asked for comment, said the Fitial administration "sought to rectify existing disparities in pay levels of department and activity heads on the basis of their respective scope of work and functionality."

"It should be noted that PL 13-24 had once addressed this disparity to provide fair and equitable compensation to such offices. However, due to the enactment of the Appropriations Act of 2006, the disparity in salaries occurred again. Therefore, the administration seeks to restore equitability by addressing these deficiencies in the current appropriations bill," he said.

### 'We have the votes'

House Speaker Froilan C. Tenorio (Cov-Saipan) said the leadership has the votes to pass the revised budget bill.

He expects the bill to be passed today.

Of the 20 House members, one is currently off-island-Rep. Edmund Villagomez (Cov-Saipan).

"We have some votes to spare. We got the votes to pass this bill," he said.

If his calculation is correct, he said the bill would have 12 votes-six Covenant Party members, four Independents, and at least two Republicans. He said even if one of two Republicans changes his mind, the leadership still has 11 votes, which is enough to pass the budget bill.

Rep. Eli Cabrera (R-Saipan) said the bill may not be perfect but the committee did its best to make it a workable one.

Rep. Trenton Conner (R-Saipan) said he would vote on the bill as currently drafted although there are other things to consider, including additional funding needed by the Judiciary and the Board of Education.

He said he will vote on the amendments being proposed by some members if they "conform to the standards" he expects of what a balanced budget should be.

Rep. Ray Yumul (R-Saipan) said the budget bill, "as it stands, is not a balanced one."

### 'Vote with your conscience'

Benavente stood his ground yesterday as he strongly opposed giving an increase to each lawmaker's discretionary fund, from the current \$86,000 to \$130,000 that is proposed in the budget bill.

He said by maintaining the \$86,000 level, the Legislature would be able to save over \$1.4 million.

Benavente said this amount could instead be given to the Judiciary, the Northern Marianas College, and the Board of Education, which has zero funding under the bill.

In his proposed floor amendment, he would like to give the Judicial Branch an additional \$650,000; Board of Education,

\$157,472; and NMC, \$621,188.

Yumul's proposed amendment provides further hiring restrictions. He wants to eliminate vacant full-time employee positions.

He wants to specifically allocate \$86,000 to pay courtappointed attorney fees.

"I hope the members will vote with their conscience," he said in an interview.

Benavente reiterated that each lawmaker can live with \$86,000 a year in discretionary funds, on top of their annual salary and leadership or chairmanship account.

### **Education, Judiciary** concerns

Yumul also wants to make sure that NMC will have 138 FTEs and a total budget not less than 3.94 percent of the total FY 2011 budgetary resources of \$132 million—pursuant to the Maintenance of Effort agreement between the U.S. Department of Education and the CNMI governor.

Basa's budget bill gives over \$4.6 million to NMC.

Henry Hofschneider, chief financial and administrative officer of NMC, said this amount is less than the 3.94 percent of the CNMI government budget, as required by the MOE agreement.

He said NMC needs to have a

budget of at least \$5.2 million. Education

Commissioner Dr. Rita Sablan and PSS federal programs coordinator Tim Thornburgh said the \$30.132 million being appropriated for PSS meets the MOE but they expressed concern about the zero funding given to the Board of Education.

Sonia Camacho, acting director of court, said the Judicial Branch needs \$800,000 more to function. Camacho, Law Revision Commission executive director Heather Kennedy and clerk of court Jennifer Doctor asked lawmakers during yesterday's session to add more funding to their respective agencies and to the Judiciary in general.

The budget bill gives the Judiciary \$2.97 million, which is less than what the first version of the bill gave—\$3.311 million.

Senate President Paul Manglona (R-Rota) reiterated yesterday that the Senate will pass a budget within two weeks after receipt of the House budget bill.

"We have no choice. There should be a budget or there will be a government shutdown. ...I am confident that we will pass a budget," he said.

Failure to enact a budget before the start of FY 2011 on Oct. 1 will result in a government shutdown.

### FROILAN

From Page 1

During yesterday's House session, the speaker spoke in the vernacular when he began blaming the 16th Legislature for a lack of revenue generating bills passed.

That was right after former House Speaker Arnold I. Palacios left the House chamber. He was there to observe the budget bill's passage, which did not happen yesterday.

Palacios later declined to

comment on his successor's statement.

In a later interview, Tenorio explained what he meant when he blamed the previous Legis-

It fell to House minority leader Diego T. Benavente (R-Saipan), a former speaker and a member of the majority bloc in the 16th Legislature, to defend the previous Legislature.

Benavente said it was when Tenorio was governor that government spending increased.

He said he had hoped that Tenorio would not go the route

of blaming previous administrations for the current financial

> "Why don't we deal with the problem now and stop blaming others?" he asked.

> The House passed last week a revenue generating bill that seeks to increase business license fees by 100 percent to 5,900 percent.

> Tenorio said his casino bills, when passed, will give the CNMI the economic boost it needs during these tough economic times.

"The business license fee in-

creases would generate maybe \$1 million or \$2 million, but we need much more than that. We need at least \$10 million. The [Saipan] casino bills will generate much more than that," he said.

Also on the agenda of the House session, which resumes this morning, is a bill to reduce and eliminate the rebate of the Northern Marianas Territorial Income Tax.

Tenorio, during the session, also said in the vernacular that should the government start reducing the government work-

force, Rota and Tinian employees should be the first ones to go.

He said later that most government employees on Saipan work for the central government; unlike on Rota and Tinian where they work only for the local government.

"We cannot afford to lay off so many employees from Saipan because they work for the central government. But most employees on Rota and Tinian work only for their municipalities; they won't impact the central government," Tenorio said.

Rep. Trenton Conner (R-Tinian), when asked for comment, said he felt offended by the speaker's remarks.

"Tinian people voted for me and I will defend them. I'll do my best so that I can protect and help my constituents on Tinian," he said.

Rep. Teresita A. Santos (Ind-Rota), for her part, said "it would be an inconsiderate statement to both the senatorial districts," referring to Rota and Tinian.

"I also asked my colleagues, and they say it won't be entertained on the floor," she said.

### **NEO**

From Page 1

In his letter to Neo Gold Wings Paradise president/treasurer Hyun Myung In and vice president/secretary, Babauta gave the investor five days from the date of receipt of the Aug. 6 letter to vacate the land.

"NGP must restore the premises to its original condi-

tion prior to entering the same by completely removing all properties, belongings, trash, and other waste debris from the public land. Further, NGP must pay DPL the sum of \$106,043.64 no later than five days from the date of receipt of this notice," Babauta said in his letter, a copy of which was obtained yesterday.

If Neo Gold Wings fails to pay this amount, Babauta said

the matter will be forwarded to the legal counsel to initiate collection proceedings against the investor.

DPL gave Neo Gold Wings a termination notice on June 8 as it was seriously delinquent in its rental obligations to DPL.

In that letter, DPL extended and provided Neo Gold Wings a grace period of 20 days to remit total payments of all rental amounts owed and outstand-

ing. That amount was and equal to \$99,028.64, excluding the month of July. The amount went up to \$106.043.64 as of Aug. 6.

Kwi Dong Woo, vice chair of Neo Gold Wings, wrote a June 18 letter to DPL.

Babauta said because DPL understands Neo Gold Wings' predicament as stated in its letter, DPL once again granted the investor a "final" termination notice.

This notice opened a last window of 30 days from June 29 for Neo Gold Wings to be fully compliant with the terms of the lease agreement. DPL gave Neo Gold Wings up to 4pm, July 28, to settle the matter but this deadline passed without a word from Neo Gold Wings. DPL then issued the notice to vacate on Aug. 6.

Neo Gold Wings had planned to build an ambitious ating on the island since 1998.

\$1 billion, six-star hotel casino on a 300-hectare public land on Tinian.

It was one of three groups of investors that secured a conditional license to operate casinos on Tinian. The two others are Bridge Investment Group, and Marianas Resort Development Corp.

So far, only Tinian Dynasty Hotel and Casino has been oper-

### **HEAD START**

From Page 1

Audit findings in fiscal year 2008 reportedly raised concerns about the program's travel procedures. Audit findings Nos. 08-1, 08-02, and 08-03 pertain to travel authorizations, advances, and liquidations that Verma described as "repeat findings" going back several years. These findings are assigned to Verma's office for resolution.

It was learned that during the department's review of the 2007 audit—in response to similar findings in fiscal year 2007—DHHS

indicated that it furnished PSS a memorandum on Oct. 17, 2008, that updates PSS travel policies.

"Based on that memo, we had closed out the travel related findings for FY 2007-believing that the school system has/ would implemented or adhered to the new policies and correct the conditions going forward. However, we note that recent audit issued similar findings in FY 2008 and also 2009," Verma was quoted as telling PSS in her Aug. 4 letter.

The official said they have a copy of the recent FY 2009 audit report on PSS and similar concerns seem to be that travel policies are not being adhered to.

On July 9 this year, the same official wrote PSS, asking it to respond to the issue but she did not get anything, prompting her to write anew. A letter from Head Start's Office of Inspector General was also sent to the system.

"At this time, we are concerned that it is and has taken much too long for the school system to address and correct these deficiencies. This situation, if left uncorrected, could/ would adversely affect federal programs. We ask that you, please, address the situation and the findings with detailed corrective actions being and/or has been taken," Verma said.

PSS was given until Aug. 9 to respond. It could not be immediately ascertained if PSS has already responded to Verma.

Verma is scheduled to submit her report to the Office of Inspector General after reviewing PSS' response.

### 'What's in FY 2008 audit report?'

The fiscal year 2008 audit on Head Start had uncovered discrepancies in travel authorizations and failure to file travel documentations on time.

PSS had blamed one late travel authorization on the late receipt of the invitation but the audit later learned that the invitation was sent out 15 days before the travel date. This is listed as unresolved and similar conditions were cited during the 2009 single audit.

Another finding for the Head Start program in 2008 indicated that six travel advances were issued to travelers with unliquidated travel advances.

In fiscal year 2009, the audit report said that PSS developed a form whereby the education commissioner can authorize and approve travel advances for employees with outstanding travel advances if the situation warrants it.

However, the auditors believe that, although the issuance of travel advances were authorized by the commissioner, the documentations do not include the narrative of the extenuating circumstances for the unliquidated travel advances.

The FY 2008 audit also found 13 travel authorizations that are either not liquidated yet or were not on file while six travel advance liquidation vouchers were submitted after the required 15day period.

These three findings in FY 2008 were also cited in the recent released audit report for PSS in FY 2009.

### AUDIT CITES INCREASED COST FOR PSS CONTRACTORS, JUNKETS

## Auditor suggests ways on how PSS can address audit findings

**By MONETH G. DEPOSA**Moneth\_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Independent auditing firm J. Scott Magliari & Co. has made several recommendations on how the Public School System could resolve the audit findings in fiscal year 2009, particularly on how PSS could bring down its costs on professional service contracts and off-island travels.

In a five-page letter to the Board of Education dated June 25, the auditor noted that the number and cost that PSS incurs for professional service contracts have increased over the years and that PSS should conduct a study whether these services could be had by hiring full-time employees or using existing employees. The auditor also suggested that PSS perform a cost-benefit analysis of hiring versus contracting.

The recent fiscal year 2009 audit had uncovered a payment of more than \$100,000 to a solesource contractor for professional development trainings. Upon further inquiry, the auditor learned that the same contractor was also awarded an estimated

\$1 million aggregate contract in fiscal year 2010, which is beyond the audit period.

"PSS should have conducted a cost analysis of other options such as establishing an in-house training center or providing for higher education for employees who could train other employees," J. Scott Magliari said.

Saipan Tribune learned that this company is Mid-Continent Research for Education and Learning, or McREL.

The auditor indicated in the same letter that PSS had disagreed with the auditor's position that cost analysis is required even for a sole-source procurement.

"Management is citing PSS' procurement policy that does not require any cost analysis for sole-sourced procurement. However, the Department of Education General Administrative Regulations explicitly requires a cost analysis to determine the reasonableness of the proposed contract price," the auditor's letter states.

Because of a noticeable number of PSS attendees for many off-island events, the auditor recommended that PSS conduct a performance review of travels to measure the cost against the benefit of travels and how these travels improve PSS. Some consideration should be included in the review: number of attendees and travel of non-HR personnel.

"PSS should evaluate whether it is reasonable and necessary to send five or more delegates to such off-island meetings, trainings, and conferences. I also noted that several school principals were authorized to travel to recruit highly qualified teachers. PSS should consider whether it is cost beneficial for PSS to send school principals to do recruitment when they should be ad-

ministering the schools," the auditor noted.

### **Travel cost-sharing**

The auditor also suggested that PSS review its travel regulations to cover cost-sharing after it found out that PSS had paid the expenses for an off-island trip that also covered a religious activity, which is not allowed in the regulations.

"PSS should be able to document that for travels that have religious activities in the agenda, only the cost of non-religious activities will be charged to PSS," it said.

J. Scott Magliari also cited the case of some PSS personnel who were allowed to take their personal vacation during the course of off-island trips, resulting in PSS paying in full the airfare for these purposes.

"Current policies only allow PSS to get reimbursement from travelers who changed their itinerary to extend the trip for personal reason and not when the leave is in between official business," the letter said.

## Room rentals, uncollected travel advances

The auditor also cited PSS for processing several small purchase orders for room rentals in 2008 totaling \$150,000; this increased to about \$281,526 in 2009.

"PSS should consider using its available facilities for meetings and conferences to reduce this costs and the time exhausted by PSS personnel in documenting this oftentimes small purchase orders," it said.

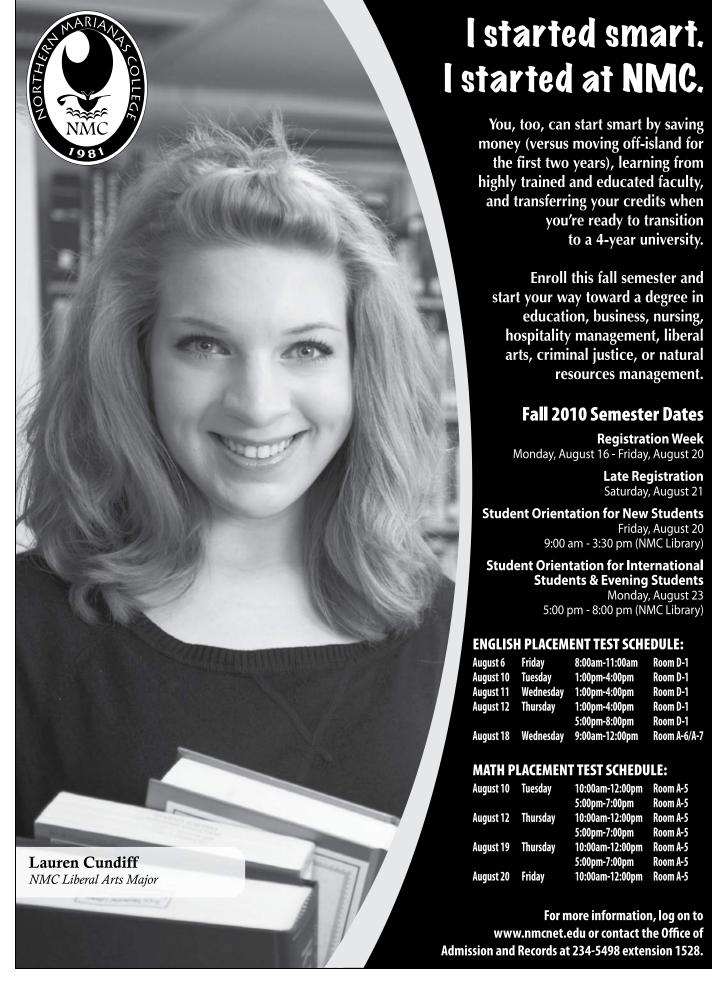
J. Scott Magliari also recommended that PSS actively pursue collection of travel advances, especially for travelers that are still affiliated with PSS.

The audit also remarked on PSS' leased vehicles, saying that, since these cars are agency-owned, they require markings for official use only and should not be tinted.

PSS was also warned of the management's penchant to override controls.







## Red Cross gears up for Swinging '60s Club 200 in October



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

### **Coastal Resources Management**

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NOTICE OF APPLICATION
July 24, 2010

THE FOLLOWING IS A PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT OF COASTAL PERMIT APPLICATIONS RECEIVED BY THE CRM OFFICES:

	APPLICANT	DATE APPLICATION RECEIVED	APPLICATION PROJECT DESCRIPTION	LOCATION	ТҮРЕ	STATUS
1	. TRIPLE J. ENTERPISES	06/28/2010 TMS-2010-X-031	60 Three Bedrooms Apartments	Chalan Kanoa	Major Sitting	Approved (07/29/2010)*
2	. PACIFIC SUBSEA SAIPAN	7/26/10 SPIm-2010-X-068	Dry Dock	South Seaplane	Shoreline APC	Approved (07/26/2010)*
3	. MONTE DIVE CORP	7/28/2010 SLRm-2010-X-069	Scuba Diving	Lagoon & Reef	Lagoon & Reef APC	Approved (7/28/2010)*
4	. LEONARDO B. SALALILA dba SAIKYOU MARINE	07/28/10 SLRm-2010-X-070	Banana Boat Operation	Shoreline	Shoreline APC	Approved (08/09/2010)*
5	. LEONARDO B. SALALILA dba SAIKYOU MARINE	07/28/10 SLRm-2010-X-071	Wake Boarding & Snorkeling Tours	Lagoon & Reef	Lagoon & Reef APC	Approved (08/09/2010)*
6	. LEONARDO B. SALALILA dba SAIKYOU MARINE	7/28/10 SLRm-2010-X-072	Para Sailing	Lagoon & Reef	Lagoon & Reef APC	Approved (08/09/2010)*
7	JENNIFER ORPIANO dba FLYBOY MARINE	7/28/10 SLRm-2010-X-073	Snorkeling Tour	Lagoon & Reef	Lagoon & Reef APC	Approved (08/09/2010)*
8	. JENNIFER ORPIANO dba FLYBOY MARINE	7/28/2010 SLRm-2010-X-074	Banana Boat Operation	Lagoon & Reef	Lagoon & Reef APC	Approved (08/09/2010)*
9	. YUSUKE SAMI dba SK. CORP	02/09/2010 SLRm-2010-X-075	Scuba Diving Operation	Lagoon & Reef	Lagoon & Reef APC	UNDER REVIEW

Publication of the above list is in accordance with CRM Regulations, which require all permit applications to be published in a local newspaper within 15 days of receipt of application. The list reflects recently received permit applications and those with a recent change in status. New applications are marked with an asterisk (\*).

The Public is invited to submit written comments regarding any of the above projects for which a permit decision has not been issued. All permit comments should identify the project by application number. Your comments should be mailed or hand-delivered to the CRM Office. All persons who desire a public hearing regarding any project may do so by submitting a written request for a public hearing to the CRM Office within fourteen (14) days for minor permits (APC's) and proposed amended major sitings. Public Hearings are required for all new major siting projects. All public hearing notices are published in a local newspaper of general circulation. Residents of Rota and Tinian may submit comments and hearing requests to their local CRM Coordinator. Persons wishing to retain the right to appeal a CRM Permit decision must file a notice of appeal with the CRM office within thirty (30) days of the issuance of the CRM permit decision as provided in Part 200 § 15-10-235 of the CRM Regulations.

By CLARISSA V. DAVID clarissa\_david@saipantribune.com

There has never been a decade quite like the '60s and the American Red Cross NMI Chapter aims to bring it back with a Swinging '60s theme for the 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Club 200 event in October.

Club 200, the local Red Cross chapter's biggest fundraising gala every year, will relive the '60s era of mods, rockers, and hippies on Oct. 23 at the Fiesta Resort and Spa in Garapan.

For \$100 a ticket, guests will have a chance to win thousands of prizes during Club 200's raffle draw, including round-trip tickets and a grand prize of \$15,000.

Red Cross executive director John Hirsh told *Saipan Tribune* that they are encouraging this year's guests to be dressed in their favorite '60s attire of tie-dyed shirts and bell bottom jeans and doll up with peace and flower signs, recognized symbols of the great decade of music and fashion.

Hirsh said they will most likely have prizes for guests

who will come in their best '60s garb. "It should be a lot of fun," he said.

According to Hirsh, exciting new things await this year's Club 200 supporters. Aside from the new theme and venue, there will be treasure chests in the form of time capsules during the event.

Hirsh said there will be keys around the event and guests can try the key to open up the time capsules. Inside the capsules are different exciting prizes like cash, lunch or dinner for two, and a whole lot more.

For the first time, the local chapter of the American Red Cross will team up with DFS for the inaugural silent auction.

Hirsh said they will welcome donations for the silent auction, like artworks from local artists.

According to Hirsh, they expect this year's event to raise about 60 percent of funds for their operation.

Hirsh urges community members to save a little bit every paycheck so they can buy the ticket for the October event.

Hirsh said tickets will be available starting Friday. Those who want to buy only need to call their office to get the ticket. "Just give us a call and we'll send one of our tickets to their office or home. We'll drive anywhere on the island to deliver a ticket," he said.

For more information, call the American Red Cross NMI Chapter at 234-3459.

### Waitress sues ex-employer for unpaid OT

A karaoke waitress is suing her former employer in federal court for allegedly failing to pay her overtime compensation.

Dong Jie Song, a Chinese national, sued Huang Shun Corp. and five unnamed co-defendants yesterday for violation of the Fair Labor Standards Act and breach of her employment contract.

Song, through counsel Colin Thompson, asked the U.S. District Court for the NMI to order the defendants pay her damages, interest, attorney's fees, and court costs.

Saipan Tribune tried to get comments from the Tinianbased Huang Shun Corp. owner, but no one answered the phone.

Song began working for Huang Shun Corp. in May 2008, working seven days a week, 52 weeks a year for most of her employment, Thompson stated in the complaint.

He said the corporation violated the provisions of the Fair Labor Standards Act by failing to pay Song overtime compensation for all of the hours she worked in excess of 40 hours each workweek.

He alleged that the defendants failed to maintain accurate records that Song actually worked, as required by FLSA. *(Ferdie de la Torre)* 



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## **Glen Perez is new Rotary president**

By CLARISSA V. DAVID clarissa\_david@saipantribune.com REPORTER

Rotarian Glen Perez was sworn in as the new president of the Rotary Club of Saipan during its regular membership meeting yesterday at the Hyatt Regency's Giovanni's Restaurant.

Perez, who was inducted as vice president during the installation of new Rotary officers

Michael Brazel, who resigned on Aug. 4 for health reasons.

"I wasn't expecting to be president," Perez, who was primarily elected vice president, told Saipan Tribune after the meeting.

With his assumption as president, the vice president position becomes vacant, Perez said.

Perez said they plan to hold

### Couple sues govt officials for not disclosing Census hiring records

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE

A couple is suing four CNMI government officials for allegedly refusing to disclose public records relating to the recruitment and hiring for the 2010 CNMI census.

Joaquin S. Torres and his wife, Diana Q. Verdejo, are suing Commerce Secretary Michael Ada, Commerce deputy Secretary Sixto Igisomar, special assistant for administration Esther Fleming, and special assistant for personnel matters Matilde Rosario.

Assistant attorney general David Lochabay asserted that job applications containing individually identifiable job application information would invade a person's right

Superior Court Associate Judge David A. Wiseman set a status conference tomorrow. Thursday, at 1:30pm.

In a petition they filed without a lawyer, Torres and Verdejo alleged that Ada failed to respond to their request for documents and refused to provide them the public records they were asking for.

They said Igisomar, Fleming, and Rosario either did not respond or had claimed that the records were either not public documents or are exempt from disclosure under the Open Government Act.

The two asked the Superior Court to declare this refusal as unlawful and to compel the defendants to make the requested records available to them for inspection or for copying.

In September 2009, Verdejo applied for the position of executive assistant, administrative assistant, and supervisor in response to an ad for 14 positions with the CNMI Census Local Office. She was not selected for any of these positions.

On Nov. 3, 2009, the couple asked Ada for documents that detail how Commerce filled all 14 positions. Ada, however, denied them access to these records, they said.

Of the 22 records requested, only the first item on their request was provided them on Nov. 18, 2009, according to

They asserted that OGA exemption of records from public inspection specifically provides that identifiable information such as names, position titles, grades, salaries, and duty stations are all public records subject to disclosure.

last June 29, officially replaced a board meeting on Thursday to plan Rotary's activities for the year and to recommend a Rotarian for the position of vice president.

> "Once a decision has been made, we can start moving in the right direction," he added.

As president, Perez said he hopes for the Rotary to continue doing community activities that they have been doing in the past, such as the Las Vegas night fundraiser and mini golf tournaments.

"With the hard times, the funds aren't there as it used to be. Hopefully, with the encouragement and the backing of all the Rotarians, we might be able to do something and work out something new," he said.

Perez said they will also work on their membership since a



Glen Perez, left, is sworn in as the new Rotary president by Rotarian Perry Inos during the regular membership meeting of the Rotary Club of Saipan yesterday at the Giovanni's Restaurant in Hyatt Regency. Perez replaced Michael Brazel who resigned last August 4 due to health reasons.

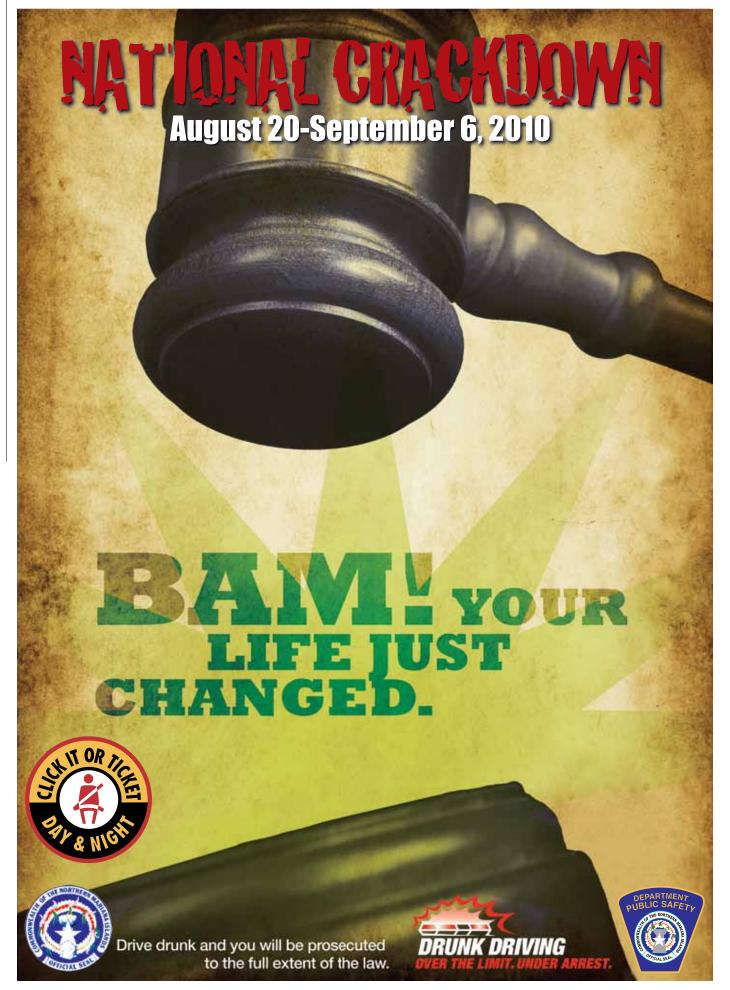
number of members have left the island.

An individual needs to be invited by a Rotarian to become a member of the organization.

to have more than 50 members. They are down to 40.

"The club tends to thrive when we have more members,"

According to Perez, they used said Perez, adding that they will try to bring in prospective members who will be excellent in the community and will help support the club.



## Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

STATE REHABILITATOIN COUNCIL PO Box 506296 Saipan, MP 96950, TEL.: (670)322-6537 FAX: (670)322-6536 TTY (670) 322-6449 EMAIL: nmidir@ovrgov.net

### **PUBLIC NOTICE**

Pursuant to 1 CMC §9910, the public is advised that the State Rehabilitation Council will hold its FY 10 Third Quarter Meeting on Friday August 20, 2010 at the Chamolinian Room, Hyatt Regency at 9:00am-3:00pm. Interested individuals are welcome to attend.

### **AGENDA**

- Meeting Call to Order
- Review and adoption of Agenda
- Review and adoption of the FY'10 1st Meeting Minutes III. (12/19/08)
- IV. Reports
  - OVR Director
    - **2010 NDEAM**
    - Needs Assessment State Plan Status
  - Fiscal Report
  - SRC Chair
    - 2010/11 Resource Plan
    - NDEAM Participation for Saipan, Rota, and Tinian 2.
  - Other committee activities E-Rehab Training: Mr. Skip Bingham and Mr. Gary Leete
- VI. Consumer Forum: CAC, etc.
- VII. Announcements VIII. Adjournment

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), individuals who wish to attend the meeting but require accommodations such as large print or sign language interpreters, are asked to call 322-6537(voice) or 322-6449(TTY). Please contact Elvira Seman (Acting Council Liaison) two days in advanced for necessary arrangements.

/s/ JESUS M. ELAMETO

SRC Chairperson

Publication of this notice is paid for by federal funds made possible by the United States Department of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services (OSERS)







Congratulations on your 12th Anniversary!





Aug. 18, 1999

### Meditation group warns against fake members seeking asylum

Leaders of the Chinese meditation group Falun Gong on Saipan warned the federal government yesterday against people who may be misrepresenting themselves as practitioners to apply for asylum in the United States. "We are not allowed to use the name of Falun Gong to apply for asylum. True believers and practitioners won't use the name of the group in vain to achieve a goal, "said a group member Han Chen. China banned the meditation group on July 22, accusing it of serving as a political power that would smash a plot to split the nation. More than a hundred Falun Gong practitioners have been locked up since Chinese authorities launched a crackdown on the outlawed group. Falun Gong is believed to have 100 million followers all over the world.

### **Travel request dispute**

The House of Representatives and the Department of Finance are expected to meet this week to try to resolve disagreement over use of legislative funds, which has evolved into an issue of separation of powers in the government. House members believe the dispute does not only concern failure by some legislators to file their travel vouchers on time, but also the apparent administration's interference with the functions of the Legislature. Finance Sec. Lucy DLG Nielsen last week defended her department from mounting criticisms triggered by the conflict, saying lawmakers must comply with the requirements before they can draw down from their respective accounts.

### Aug. 18, 2000

### Senate wants comprehensive scholarship bill

The Senate will draw up comprehensive legislation that sets out the government policy on financial aid and grants to students seeking higher education in an effort to maximize dwindling local resources. Five bills on scholarship, grants and educational assistance programs of the government, including four from Senate President Paul A. Manglona, are pending before the Committee on Health, Education and Welfare. They were tackled yesterday at a public hearing. Committee chair Sen. Richardo S. Atalig said the panel is likely to come up with one comprehensive measure to incorporate all the proposals as well as recommendations from other government agencies.

### **Govt weighs Outer Cove Marina takeover**

The controversy over the Outer Cove Marina may soon come to an end as the government is expected to decide in two weeks whether it has a stake in its operation in partnership with the Marine Revitalization Corporation. Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio pledged to come up with the decision after meeting yesterday with MRC President Anthony Pellegrino and other government officials in an effort to resolve the long-standing dispute that has heightened in recent weeks. Mr. Pellegrino described his audience with the governor as his "last resort" following what appeared to be irreconcilable differences with boat owners and tour operators who use the Outer Cove.

### Aug. 18, 2002

Governor leads dedication of US Army Reserve Center Gov. Juan N. Babauta led government and military officials yesterday in the dedication of the newly constructed U.S. Army Reserve Center on Saipan. At least 100 families, friends, government leaders, Army Reservists and high-ranking military officials graced the dedication ceremony at the Army Commissary in Puerto Rico. According to Babauta, the construction of the Army Reserve Center depicts the strong intention of the U.S. military to maintain presence in the CNMI for a long time. "The Lt. Governor and I have been advocating for a bigger military presence in the CNMI. Even the business community has gone public to show their support in

its presence," Babauta said.

the continued use of the Farallon de Medinilla. The U.S. military can be partner of the CNMI in diversifying the local economy with

**14 complete Defensive Driving course**A group of Department of Public Safety officers, whose driv-

ing privileges were temporarily suspended after they figured in minor road accidents in the past, earned licenses to drive DPS vehicles once again. Fourteen police officers and firefighters are back behind the wheel after completing Friday a 16-hour course on Defensive Driving facilitated by National Safety Council-certified instructor Lt. Pete C. Muña. Public Safety Commissioner Edward C. Camacho lauded the participants for persevering to finish the two-day workshop. "These are 14 less accidents and 14 more safe drivers," said the DPS chief during the brief certification ceremony held Friday.

### **COMMUNITY BRIEFS**

### Student orientation at Saipan Southern High

Saipan Southern High School will be holding a new student orientation for freshmen (9th grade) students on Thursday, Aug. 26. Freshman only: 9am-11am morning session or 1pm-3pm afternoon session.

All other new students (upper classmen grades 10th, 11th, 12th) will have their orientation on Friday, Aug. 27, 9am-11am morning session only.

All students who were "evaluated" at Hopwood in the spring are still "required" to register at SSHS. Students were not "registered" already; they were only evaluated as a preregistration process. As a result, all new students at this time wishing to register for school at SSHS will be transferred to MHS.

Important: SSHS is overcrowded. All new students must attend orientation with parent or legal guardian on the day and time specified. Students who do not attend may be placed on the transfer list due to overcrowding. Students will not be allowed entry without their parent or guardian.

Should you have questions call the SSHS principal directly at 670-237-3702 or the SSHS main office at 670-664-4000. (SSHS)

### **NMC** fall registration ongoing until Aug. 21

Registration for the Northern Marianas College's fall 2010 semester will be ongoing until Saturday, Aug. 21, 2010.

New students are required to take the English and Math placement tests before they register. After taking the placement tests, students can obtain the required slip from the English and Math departments and meet with their academic advisors. NMC academic advisors will help new students fill in registration forms and create class schedules. Students can then finish the registration process in NMC's Room D-1.

Application for admissions will still be accepted until the last day of registration on Saturday, Aug. 21, 2010, provided that both placement tests have been taken.

For additional information or inquiries, contact the Office of Admissions and Records at 234-5498 ext. 1528, or log on to www.nmcnet.edu. (NMC)

### **Kagman Elementary** calendar of activities

This is to inform students, teachers, parents, and guardians of Kagman Elementary School of the following backto-school events:

- Sept. 1: School Level Professional Development Day. All teachers report to school at 7:30am.
- Sept. 2, School Level Professional Development Day
- Sept. 3: General school orientation for parents and students at 1:30pm in the school cafeteria. Classroom orientation for parents and students at 2pm-4:30pm in the following grade level classes:

Kinder AM and PM parents/student classroom orientation in Room D101

- 1<sup>st</sup> grade, parents/student classroom

orientation in D102

orientation in F108

- 2<sup>nd</sup> grade, parents/student classroom orientation in E101
- 3<sup>rd</sup> grade, parents/student classroom orientation in E112
- 4<sup>th</sup> grade, parents/student classroom
- 5<sup>th</sup> grade, parents/student classroom orientation in C103
- Sept. 7, first day of school for all students:
- Kinder AM, 7:30-11am
- Kinder PM, 11:15am-2:15pm
- 1st-5th grade, 7:30am-2:15pm

### Sobriety checkpoints on Rota

The Department of Public Safety will be conducting sobriety checkpoints on Rota on Aug. 20, 21, 22, and Sept. 4, 2010.

- Aug. 20: Along San Francisco Highway Tatachog by the Northern Marianas College, from 9pm to 10:15pm.
- Aug. 21: Along San Francisco Highway Ugis area, from 8pm to 9:45pm.

- Aug. 22: Along San Francisco Highway by Teteto Beach, from 7:30pm to 8:15pm.
- Sept. 4, 2010: Along San Francisco Highway Uyulan area, from 7:30pm to 8:45pm.

Each checkpoint will last at least 75 minutes (1 hour 15 minutes) at each location. Checkpoints are subject to be terminated if it begins to rain.

Police officers will also be conducting highway criminal interdictions, saturation patrol, aggressive driver interdictions, and laser activities. For more information, contact officers Jarrod T. Manglona or Tito S. Hocog at 532-9433. (DPS)

### Free removal of junk cars in Precinct 2

The Saipan Mayor's Office is currently removing junk cars in the Precinct 2 area for free. Precinct 2 residents who want their junk cars removed may call the office of Rep. Ray Palacios at 664-8923 or Rep. Ralph Demapan at 664-8899. (PR)



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## Opinion



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> Jayvee L. Vallejera EDITOR Mark Rabago ASSISTANT EDITOR

**AP** The Associated Press

**Pacific Islands News Association** 

### **EDITORIAL**

## **Gates points the way to real** military, economic strength

n Tuesday, U.S. newspapers published headlines we never thought we'd see: ■ "Pentagon Plans Steps to Reduce Budget and

- Jobs" (The New York Times). ■ "Gates Says Defense Bureaucracy Swollen, Declares Cuts" (Bloomberg.com).
- "Thousands of Defense Jobs to be Eliminated" (*The Wash*-

Secretary of Defense Robert M. Gates dropped the hammer Monday on the Pentagon's entrenched bureaucracy, vowing to close the military's Joint Services Command, reduce the number of admirals and generals by 50 and senior civilian employees by 150 in the next two years, eliminate two Pentagon agencies and cut Pentagon intelligence contracts by 10 percent.

The idea is to save money wisely before Congress wades in with a Weed Whacker. Gates hopes the Pentagon budget will keep growing, but at a more modest 1 percent a year instead of the 7 percent a year that it has grown since 2001.

Gates wants to spend that 1 percent growth, and an additional 3 percent to 4 percent in savings and economies, where it will do the most good: Sustaining the troops and modernizing the military in a way that makes sense.

Gates is a business-oriented Republican who serves a Democratic president, giving him the sort of credentials he'll need to fight off the inevitable complaints that he is weakening the military. He ran the CIA under President George H.W. Bush, was appointed to succeed Donald Rumsfeld as defense secretary in 2006 by President George W. Bush and was kept on at the Pentagon by President Barack Obama.

"The culture of endless money that has taken hold must be replaced by a culture of savings and restraint," he said.

Selling that to Congress will be a trick, even for a Congress that pays lip service to fiscal restraint. Already, Virginia politicians have begun a counterattack on the proposal to close the Joint Forces Command, with headquarters in Norfolk. It employs more than 6,000 military, civilian and contract employees.

Ten years ago, "jointness" was all the rage at the Pentagon. Rumsfeld said cooperation and planning among the military services would enable the United States to fight quicker, smarter and cheaper wars.

After the initial successes in Afghanistan in 2001 and Iraq in 2003, Rumsfeld said jointness had been the key. The Joint Command Center, established in 1999, was designed to coordinate among the Army, Navy, Air Force and Marines, and finds ways to leverage technology to aid their joint efforts.

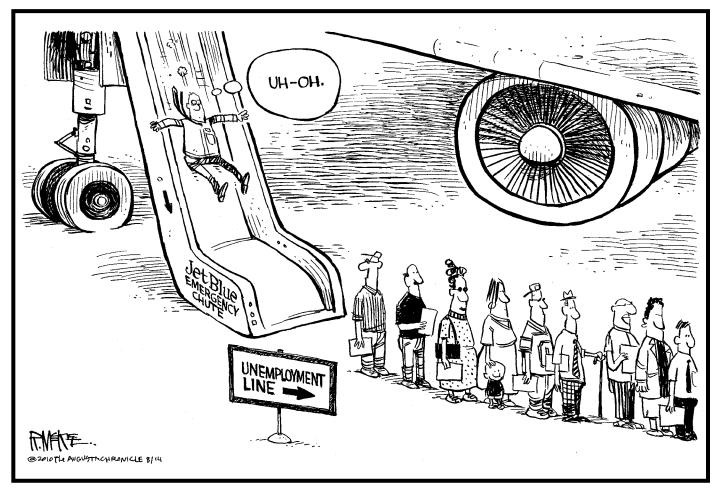
As it turned out, the United States could have used the 250,000 troops in Iraq that Rumsfeld had decreed were unnecessary. But commanders among the various service branches found ways to coordinate among themselves to fight the long wars. Out of necessity, jointness became a strategy, thus rendering the Joint Services Command redundant.

The Obama administration has proposed spending \$708.2 billion on defense this year, which includes a \$548.9 base budget and \$159.3 billion for Afghanistan and Iraq. Adjusted for inflation, that's the highest military budget since World War II.

Even if the wars ended today—which, by the way, would be a good idea—this can't go on forever. Health care costs alone will cost the Pentagon \$50 billion by 2011.

For too long, pork has been disguised as patriotism. We can end that rationally, to the nation's benefit, as Gates has proposed.

See GATES on Page 11



When affirmative action was

established, it was intended to benefit a

small percentage of the U.S. population,

but as the rationale and scope of the

program evolved, so did the number

of people it included. Large-scale post-

1965 immigration also complicated

the equation and ultimately upset the

political calculus that made affirmative

action politically viable.

## Affirmative action's time is up

By GREGORY RODRIGUEZ

he biggest blow to affirmative action in its nearly 50 years of existence was the election of Barack Obama to the presidency of the United States. Not because Obama is against the policy (he is, as on so many issues, nuanced in his support; i.e., he believes it should exist but not extend to his children) but because his election was widely perceived as being reflective of a profound shift in the country's racial balance.

I believe that white racial anxiety, not immigration, will be the most significant and potentially dangerous socio-demographic trend of the coming decade. The combination of changing demographics and symbolic political victories on the part of nonwhites will inspire in whites a greater racial consciousness, a growing sense of beleagurement and louder calls to end affirmative action or to be included in it.

I am so convinced of this that I think to avoid a destructive white backlash in the face of a rapidly diversifying society, the president should call for an end to affirmative action. In a "Nixon goes to China" sort of way, Obama—by virtue of his racial background,

party affiliation and political temperament—is better poised to pull off such a difficult task more gracefully than any other politician.

Ideally, policy, like politics, is the art of the possible. No matter how good its intentions or outcomes, the benefits of any policy should clearly outweigh the social costs. When affirmative action was established, it was intended to benefit a small percentage of the U.S. population, but as the rationale and scope of the program evolved, so did the number of people it included. Large-scale post-1965 immigration also complicated the equation and ultimately upset the political calculus that made affirmative action politically viable.

Not surprisingly, California became the first state to abolish statesanctioned affirmative action in education and contracts, through a ballot initiative in 1996. That's not because white voters here, who overwhelmingly supported the measure, have more negative feelings toward minorities. Nor is it because they are more committed to fairness and absolute colorblindness than Anglos elsewhere. It happened here, quite simply, because minorities were fast approaching 50 percent of the population and whites felt that the playing field had tilted against them.

### By GREGORY RODRIGUEZ

Special to the Los Angeles Times

Rodriguez, a columnist for the Times' opinion pages, is director of the California Fellows Program at the New America Foundation. E-mail Rodriguez at grodriguez@latimescolumnists.com.



Is there hard evidence that whites are hurt by affirmative action? No. Over the course of four decades of the program, white educational attainment has increased. And whites still make up the vast majority of federal employees. Have blacks or Latinos reached parity with whites in employment and income? Not even close. In fact, during this recession, they lag behind whites for higher-paying jobs at the largest rates in a decade.

But such data are not likely to change the growing perception among whites that the deck has been stacked against them. The number of court cases in which whites claim reverse discrimination

> is going up, and we're routinely hearing the cries of white minority victimhood. And it's not just coming from white nationalists.

Conservative New York Times columnist Ross Douthat has argued that the culture of affirmative action in the Ivy Leagues is not only depriving poor whites of a shot at entering the nation's elite schools but also fueling "racially tinged conspiracy theories" such as those claiming that the president is a foreign-born commie. Conservative Democratic Sen. Jim Webb of Virginia essentially argued in a Wall Street Journal oped that plenty of white folk have it rough too and that affirmative action only makes things rougher.

Calls to scrap affirmative action

will only grow more fervent as the rest of the nation begins to look more like California. As whites in more states become the minority, they will seek to protect what they perceive to be their self-interest, or will be seduced by the siren song of minority victimology that has captivated other groups. Or both.

As I see it, we can either end such programs sooner with less pain or suffer the consequences of a much more brutally divisive battle later. It's hard enough to get along in a diverse society. We don't need the remedy for institutionalized racism to create more racial tensions. We need to find new, less divisive ways to fight inequality.

The Saipan Tribune welcomes comments on any article, column, editorial, or topic that may be of interest to the public. Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The Saipan Tribune reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, CIC Centre, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

## The power of focus

The only way to take control of your life, raise your standard of living and move beyond merely surviving is to create your own unique product or service that you offer to increasing numbers of people in exchange for the things of value that you desire. This simple formula applies to countries as well as people. A self-sufficient economy has its own products or services of value to export to the world. Similarly, a self-sufficient individual has something of value to exchange in the global marketplace. That thing of value is based on your natural talent, skill, or interest—in other words, your passion!

### Step 4 in the creative process

ity": July 29, 2010; The Power of Visualization: Aug. 4, 2010; The Power of Acceptance: Aug. 11, 2010], we spoke about the need to have clear and specific descriptions and images of your goals as the first step in bringing them into reality. We covered the need to visualize (or sensorize) your desired reality as often as possible. We also discussed removing any of the mental and emotional blocks that may prevent us from committing to, pursuing and achieving our goals. This brings us to Step 4 in the 7-Step Creative process: Focus.

There are two important concepts to keep in mind when it comes to focus:

### 1. You attract and create what you pay attention to.

By now, the concept of the Law of Attraction is fairly well known, and is becoming increasingly accepted in public's consciousness. The law of attraction simply states that whatever you think about, you attract. As one speaker put it: "You get what you think about...all day long."

The life you are currently living has been attracted and created by the dominant thoughts, actions and expectations you've had up until this point. Therefore, if you wish to have something different in the future, you must begin to think, act and believe differently now. Focus on what you want, not what you don't want. The previous steps in the process are all designed to help with this.

### 2. The more energy you can devote to focusing your attention, the more quickly your goals will manifest.

A friend and reader of this column recommended a book to me ti-

tled *The End of Overeating*, which, among other things, illuminates the effect that the Standard American Diet (SAD, for short) has on one's body and mind. She wrote in an email to me, in response to last week's power of acceptance article:

"...even if I wanted to lose weight to be more attractive, and I had subconscious sabotage going on, the brain on "fats, sugar, and salt" is an equally real if not greater challenge to reaching that goal."

I agree. Our ability to focus is a function of the condition of our brain and body. If your brain and body are polluted and not operating clearly, then it becomes more difficult to focus. That's why any advice on goal achievement must include a physical component as well.

The goal is to return and maintain the body to a healthy state so that your brain's mental functions are not impaired. I suggest:

### Cleanse the body

Years of neglect and misguided notions of what is truly healthy have created toxic bodies. Internal cleansing programs for the colon, liver, gallbladder, blood, in addition to fasting and juicing as ways of helping the body to remove the built-up toxicity, mucous, and unhealthy accumulations.

There is also a wide range of simple health-promoting practices that many people are unaware of. For most people, the strategies and practices required to achieve a healthy lifestyle, require a complete overhaul of how they think about health, diet and sickness. A good book to start with is *Natural Cures They Don't Want You To Know About* by Kevin Trudeau.

### **Quiet the mind**

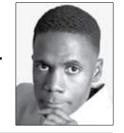
The mind, too, is often toxic and in need of cleaning. The fast-paced, high-stressed, negatively-skewed nature of our daily lives and interactions with the world create a level of tension and "noise" that makes it difficult to truly focus on what we want and to hear the still small voice within which can guide us to the achievement of our goals.

Our society is not designed to encourage the skills of mental focus that are necessary for success. We are bombarded and distracted at every turn by persuasive advertising and depressing news. Our

### THE SAIPANPRENEUR PROJECT

Creating economic success for the CNMI
By WALT F.J. GOODRIDGE

Special to the Saipan Tribune



attention spans have been getting shorter and shorter with each generation as we feed on a diet of high-tech, fast action video games, movies, and music videos. Turn off the television, reduce your consumption of news, unplug from the virtual world, connect in the real world, and take a walk in nature. Meditation, Qi Gong, breathing exercises, and yoga—are just a few of the ways to help restore a more centered and balanced state for the mind-body connection.

### Summary

Think about this for a moment, and ask yourself if it makes sense. Think about two electromagnets that attract each other. The greater the energy of the magnets, the greater the force of attraction. Attraction, therefore, is increased by energy. Similarly, the more energy you can create in your mind and body, the greater will be the force of attraction of the things you focus on.

Your task over the next few weeks, therefore, is to use the previous steps of clarity, visualization and acceptance and focus them on a particular outcome that you desire. Increase your body's energy by beginning an exercise and cleansing regimen. At the same time, increase your mind's energy by practicing a technique (of your choice) for becoming still.

Don't let anyone fool you. There is a direct connection between the state of your mind and body, and your ability to focus on and achieve the things you desire.

Next time: Step 5 in the Creative Process *Inspired by Paul Scheele* 

Intil next week remember success is a journey not a destinat

Until next week, remember, success is a journey, not a destination!

Send article suggestions, entrepreneur nominations and feedback about this article to walt@passionprofit.com.

Walt F.J. Goodridge is author of 16 books including Turn Your Pas-

sion Into Profit. Walt offers coaching and workshops to help people pursue and profit from their passions. Originally from the island of Jamaica, Walt has grown several successful businesses in the US, and now makes his home here on Saipan. To learn more, visit www. passionprofit.com and follow Walt on Twitter (waltonsaipan).

### **GATES**

From Page 10

Or we can watch congressional food fights break out. Our money's on the food fights.

(c) 2010, St. Louis Post-Dispatch

### Iran's pawns

Sarah Shourd turned 32 in Iran's notorious Evin Prison last week. It's her second birthday in captivity.

July 31 marked a year since the Californian and two other American hikers—Shane Bauer, 28, of Minnesota, and Josh Fattal, 28, of Elkins Park, Pa.,—were seized by Iranian authorities after straying across an unmarked border.

The three have not been charged, yet Iranian officials have accused them of spying and attempting to stir up resistance to the regime. The hikers have been allowed only one visit from family members in the last year, and calls home are rarely permitted.

Bauer and Fattal share a cell, but Shourd is held in solitary confinement. In a call home last week, she reported that Iranians have denied her request for medical treatment and a cellmate.

The State Department has regularly demanded their release on humanitarian grounds. The Senate passed a resolution urging that they be freed "immediately and unconditionally." On July 30, President Obama made his first public statement on the case, calling the release of the three hikers a "humanitarian imperative."

It's not surprising that an Iranian regime that sponsors terrorism worldwide and shoots down its own people in the streets would ignore pleas for a humanitarian gesture. Nevertheless, it can't be said enough: Free the hikers. Now.

Letters to the Editor

## 'We have given up so much'

This letter is in response to both Mr. Mitch Westland's letter to the editor dated Aug. 16, 2010 headlined "They deserve our respect" and to Mr. Segundo Castro's "Rules on wearing BDUs."

Gentlemen, thank you for reading my letter to the editor regarding the Marianas military buildup, as Gov. Camacho of Guam calls it during the CNMI economic summit I attended at Fiesta Resort's Hibiscus Hall some years ago. Guam Lt. Gov. Mike Cruz and Carlotta Deleon Guerrero were present and were representing Gov. Camacho. The economic summit mentioned the Marines moving to Guam from Futenma, Okinawa in Japan. This movement will not only affect Guam but may also affect the Northern Marianas, said Lt. Gov. Cruz.

Mr. Westland, have you ever wondered why the Marines are being relocated from Futenma to Guam and the Marianas? A recent incident already happened in Guam with the Marines; the story was covered up by authorities. You need not to explain in detail regarding the duties and responsibilities of a soldier. You only mentioned in your letter the good things about our men and women in uniform. What about the bad ones, Mr. Westland? Remember, there is no utopia. I served the Wisconsin National Guard at River Falls in 1978-1980, Nevada National Guard in Las Vegas in 1980-1982, and numerous military assignments around the world. I was awarded the Armed Services Achievement Medal for honorable and faithful service to our country more than 10 years ago. I am also a proud soldier and carry the American flag in my front door. As a bouncer before at GIG Discotheque, I witnessed on several occasions how off-duty Marines behave in bars. You know what I mean! You are an American and know more than I do when it comes to this subject.

Mr. Westland, Saipan is a tiny island and soon will be experienc-

## The Gaia Minute

I enjoyed reading the only news article I found on The Earth Healing Day. Jaime R. Vergara's is a well-rounded article on Earth Healing Day [http://www.saipantribune.com/newsstory.aspx?cat=3=102189]. I would also like to make your readers aware of a worldwide call for round-the-clock prayer for Gaia, called The Gaia Minute. We are calling for at least 1,500 people in all time zones to take about nine minutes at the same time every day, to be in a state of prayer/meditation, not asking for anything but sending their highest vibration into Gaia:

ing another population growth faster than the factories that were here. Saipan learned a lot about social problems associated with population growth when the garment factories were here. Now is the best time to be careful with another growth in population. My letter is not about hurting people, but to show concern on how we will deal with the military buildup.

As for you Mr. Segundu Castro with your UCMJ and other dress code policies, I must advise you that Saipan is a Commonwealth of the United States of America with a jurisdiction I call self-government. Request permission to leave us the option to control military behavior on Saipan. Two-thirds of Tinian is under military rule forever. One hundred percent of FDM is gone forever for military live bombing exercise. It is off-limits to local fishermen who are not allowed to fish there! Maug, Asuncion, Farallon de Pajaros, submerged lands, and lands taken by Nightingale reed warblers are forever lost. Mr. Castro, please give us a chance to control social military movement here on Saipan. This is not San Diego, California, where the civilian population is large. Enough damage was done by the garment industry employees walking around the island and entering private properties without permission. Don't you agree in che balances? Leave Saipan alone on how to implement its rules and laws. Segundo, don't you think we in the Marianas have given enough to the U.S. military—in air, land, and sea? Remember, Saipan is not Camp Robert or Fort McCoy in Wisconsin. We lost some self-government control here on Saipan, but not all.

### **Thomas Aquino Cabrera Camacho**

Chalan Piao, Saipan

Mother Earth and all beings. We have a community page on http://Facebook.com/GaiaMinute where updates are posted and people can sign in, and a website at http://gaiaminute.com/ that is gathering information and inspirations about Gaia from different cultures and eras. Thank you.

Meenakshi Suri via e-mail

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Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

## The Weather

### 5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian



Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.

▲87° ▼78°

Palau

Yap

Chuuk

Pohnpei

Kosrae

Majuro

Auckland

Hong Kong Honolulu

Los Angeles

Melbourne

New York

Beijing

London

Manila

Miami

Osaka

Paris

Pusan

Rome

Salem

Seoul

Tokyo

**Micronesia** Guam and Rota Thunderstorms ▲86 ▼78

Showers

Showers

Showers

Showers

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Sunny

Sunnv

San Francisco Partly Cloudy ▲60 ▼52

Washington, DC Mostly Cloudy ▲90 ▼75

Thundershowers ▲ 83 ▼71 Thundershowers ▲ 88 ▼82

Mostly Sunny ▲68 ▼56

Mostly Sunny ▲81 ▼64

Thundershowers ▲ 86 ▼79

Thundershowers ▲89 ▼79

Mostly Sunny ▲89 ▼71

Partly Cloudy ▲ 70 ▼53

Thundershowers ▲ 84 ▼78

Mostly Sunny ▲93 ▼54

Thundershowers ▲ 86 ▼ 76

Thundershowers ▲ 89 ▼79

**Around The Globe** 

Thunderstorms ▲84 ▼77

Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and a slight chance of thunderstorms. East winds 10 to 15 mph.

87° **▼**78°

**▲**85 ▼78

**▲**88 ▼77

▲88 ▼74

**▲**90 **▼**76

**▲**90 **▼**76

**▲**56 **▼**52

**▲**86 **▼**74

**▲**53 ▼50

**▲**95 ▼81

**▲**87 **▼**68



Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and a slight chance of thunderstorms.

**▲87° ▼78°** 

Partly cloudy with

isolated showers.

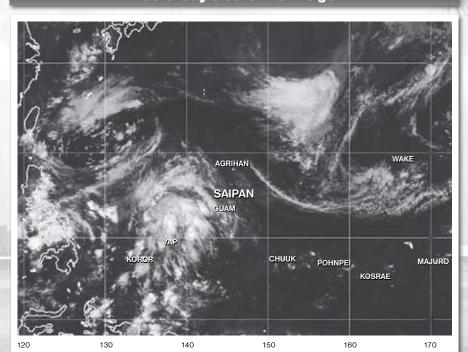
**▲ 87°** ▼ **78°** 

Partly cloudy with

isolated showers.

### **▲87°** ▼78°

### Yesterday's Satellite Image



### PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, TUESDAY, AUGUST 17, 2010

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A surface trough extends northeastward from 7N132E to 15N138E. Converging low-level winds near the trough and diverging upper-level winds are producing scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms west of Guam and over Koror and Yap within an area bounded by a line from EQ135E to 1N140E to 15N143E to 19N139E to 14N132E back to EQ135E. Two upper-level lows are found near Wake Island. One is centered northeast of Wake Island at 23N173E, the other is centered west of the island at 20N162E. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are found north of 23N between 173E and 178E. Trade-wind convergence north of the Marshall Islands is generating scattered showers well north of Majuro between 14N and 17N from 172E to 176E.

	Ti	ides	
Saipan Ha	rbor		
12:50 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet
8:48 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.1 Feet
4:33 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.5 Feet
8:51 PM	Today	Low Tide:	1.3 Feet

Su	nrise/Suns	et
Today	6:03 AM	6:39 PM
Thursday	6:03 AM	6:38 PM
Friday	6:03 AM	6:38 PM
Saturday	6:03 AM	6:37 PM
Sunday	6:03 AM	6:36 PM

Моо	nrise/Mooi	nset
Today	1:41 PM	12:14 AM
Thursday	2:35 PM	1:07 AM
Friday	3:25 PM	2:01 AM
Saturday	4:11 PM	2:54 AM
Sunday	4:53 PM	3:46 AM

### GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The Saipan Tribune accepts for FREE publication the

### **PICTURES**

following

- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS
- A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings are other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMU'T SARI Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

■ TRÁVELOGUE

■ COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Announcements of upcoming activities of organiza tions, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies

Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

### **REQUIREMENTS**

### For pictures:

- otos should be original and not copyrighted. Contrib utors must have the right to allow the Saipan Tribune to publish the pictures.
- $\blacksquare$  Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months. ■ For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

### For announcements:

■ Must have complete details (who, what, where, when),

the name of contact person, and a phone number ■ Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to

next day's edition.

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- Fax: (670) 235-3740
- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950 ■ Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
- To check if contributions are i 6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

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- The Saipan Tribune reserves the right to accept or reject a contribution for publication; the right to edit all contributions, the date of publication, size of the picture, and page placement; and the right to publish contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats.
- The Saipan Tribune will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.

  For Travelogue, the Saipan Tribune reserves the right
- to choose which pictures to publish.

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

■ Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone

**NMI CRIME** 

**STOPPERS** 

■ \*11 on any PTI cellular phone ■ Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

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### FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF AUGUST 16, 2010

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SAIPAN	-GUAM		GUAM-S	SAIPA	N	
C09317	4:25am 5:15a	m Daily	C09316	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
C09313	8:30am 9:20a	m Daily	C09596	7:00am	7:50am	Daily
C09601	12:10pm 1:00p	m 1, 4, 5, 7	C09600	10:05am	10:55am	Daily
C09603	3:05pm 3:55p		C09602	1:40pm	2:30pm	1, 4, 5, 7
C09605	6:35pm 7:25p		C09604	5:10pm	6:00pm	Daily
C09599	9:35pm 10:25		C09606	8:10pm	9:00pm	Daily
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DL287	6:00am 8:35a		DL290	-	2:20pm	Daily
DL297	3:20pm 5:55p	m Daily	DL298	10:25am	3:00pm	Daily
DL289	4:35pm 7:10p		DL288		1:10am+1	Daily
SAIPAN	-NAGOYA		NAGOYA	A-SAIF	PAN	
DL640	7:40am 10:20	am Daily	DL641	9:10pm	1:40am+1	Daily
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Editor's Note: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); CZ: China Southern; CO: Continental; FM: Shanghai Airlines; DL: Delta

ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

### FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA F	requency	Airline	ETD	ETA I	requency
Guam-Rota				FRE 113	11:40	11:50	Daily
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily	FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily
Rota-Saipan				FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily	FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily
Guam-Rota				FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily	FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily
Rota-Saipan	17:50	18:20	Daily	FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily
Saipan-Rota				Tinian-Saipa			
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily	FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily
Rota-Guam	10:20	10:45	Daily	FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily
Saipan-Rota				FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily	FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily
Rota-Guam				FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily	FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily
				FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily
Saipan-Tinian				FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily	FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily	FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily	FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily	FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily	FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily				

## NMC Natural Resources Management scholarship deadline on Friday

is reminding students interested in pursuing a degree in Natural Resources Management that the deadline to apply for the NMC Natural Resources Management Scholarship is this Friday, Aug. 20, 2010.

The Natural Resources Management Scholarship Program aims to promote higher education by providing financial assistance for college students in their pursuit of professional careers in managing natural resources. The program also seeks to provide current public and private sector employees

their knowledge and skills and have full time jobs and want to to enhance their career and professional development.

"We have been working extremely hard to ensure that we make these scholarship funds available in time for the fall 2010 semester," said Ross Manglona, acting dean of NMC's Community Programs and Services. "Given the economic difficulties that many individuals are experiencing at this time, we hope many students apply and take advantage of this financial opportunity."

"This is one of only a few scholarships available to part take classes in the evening can still take advantage of the scholarships," added Manglona.

The Natural Resources Management Program is designed to offer an associate degree in NRM, preparing student to pursue or advance careers requiring a broad background in agricultural, marine, environmental, and natural resources management, or to transfer to a related baccalaureate degree program at other colleges or universities.

The NMC Natural Resources Management scholarship prostudents with about \$1,200 each and 15 part-time students with about \$600 each, amounts of which are sufficient to pay for all tuition costs per semester (fall 2010 and spring 2011).

Scholarship selection will be based on merit and financial need. The scholarship funds will be also be awarded on the basis of the applicant's community involvement, academic background, letter of recommendation, and a written essay. An interview may also be required.

To be eligible, a student must be a U.S. citizen (or green card and enrolled as a part-time or full-time student at NMC; have a high school or college cumulative GPA of 2.00 or better; and be able to demonstrate financial need.

If selected to receive the scholarship, the applicant must also sign an agreement stating that he or she will work in the Commonwealth after graduating from the Northern Marianas College for a period twice as long as the period for which the applicant received the scholarship.

For additional information about the scholarship or to pick

the past three years; be accepted Financial Aid Office in Building N or call 234-5498 Ext. 1527. Applications can also be downloaded online at www.nmcnet.edu.

The NMC Natural Resources Management scholarship program was made possible through funds from the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Resident Instruction Grants for Insular Areas, Award No. 2008-38416-19574.

To learn more about the NRM program, contact Dr. Alfredo De Torres at 670-234-5498 Ext. 1202 or email alfredod@nmcnet.edu. (NMC)



**DOCOMO DOES IT AGAIN** 

The Marianas Tourism Education Council met on Aug. 11, 2010, with DOCOMO Pacific GM James Nelson, third from left, to discuss the DOCOMO Pacific Golf Classic on Sept. 4 that will benefit MTEC. MTEC works to increase public awareness of the importance of tourism and to encourage visitor hospitality. Pictured at the Marianas Visitors Authority office are, from left, MTEC treasurer Nhing Reyes, MVA Community Programs manager Martin Duenas, Nelson, MTEC president Ed Cho, MVA Public Relations rep Catherine Perry Anderson, MTEC member Rose Ada, and MTEC vice president Vicky Benavente.



THANKS AND FAREWELL

Outgoing president Akio Hara of Coral Ocean Point Resort is presented a plaque of appreciation on Aug. 13, 2010, at Pacific Islands Club Saipan by the board of directors of the Hotel Association of the Northern Mariana Islands. Hara has returned to Japan following 12 years as president of the golf resort. Picture from left are HANMI director Ed Cho, HANMI acting chair BK Park, Hara, HANMI secretary Hiroki Sugie, HANMI director Kieran Daly, and HANMI legal counsel Marcia Schultz.



### Northern Mariana Islands Council for the Humanities

### VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

### **Board of Directors** Northern Mariana Islands Council for the Humanities

The Board of Directors for the Northern Mariana Islands Council for the Humanities (Council) wishes to announce an impending vacancy on its board of directors.

The Council is a non-profit private corporation affiliated with the National Endowment for the Humanities. The Council's mission is to "foster awareness, understanding and appreciation of the humanities through support of educational programs that relate the humanities to the indigenous cultures and to the intellectual needs and interests of the people of the Commonwealth."

The Council's board is comprised of thirteen volunteer members who serve three year terms. The Council strives to maintain a board that reflects a broad cross section of our CNMI community. The ideal candidate will have a strong desire to promote the Council's mission, programs, and activities. Board responsibilities include but are not limited to:

- Attending regular Council meetings four times annually
- Participating in working committee meetings;
- Evaluating Council programs and activities;
- Reviewing grant applications;
- Raising funds and recruiting community partners;
- Providing input from various community members, and
- Attending conferences, workshops and other meetings on behalf of the NMI Council for the Humanities.

Interested individuals are invited to submit their letters of interest and resumes to Tracy M. Guerrero, Chair, Northern Mariana Islands Council for the Humanities at Post Office Box 506437 Saipan, MP 96950 or delivered to the NMI Council for the Humanities office located in the Springs Plaza Building in Gualo Rai, Saipan. All letters of interest and resumes must be received no later than 4:00 p.m. on Friday, September 24, 2010. For additional information, please contact the Council's Executive Director, Scott Russell, at telephone 235-4785 or visit the Council's website at www.nmihumanities.org.



COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

### OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT

P.O. Box 5153 CHRB, SAIPAN. MP 96950 -5153 • TEL. NOS.: (670) 234-6925 /6958/8036 • Fax no.: (670) 234-1013

**EXAMINATION ANNOUNCEMENT NO.: 10-084 OPENING DATE:** 08/04/10 **CLOSING DATE: 08/18/10** 

This examination is for the purpose of developing an Open Competitive and Promotional Eligible list. It is the policy of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands that the personnel system shall be applied and administered according to the principle of equal opportunity for all citizens and nationals as defined by the Northern Marianas Commonwealth Constitution regardless of age, race, sex, religion, political affiliation or belief, marital status, handicap or place of origin.

**POSITION AND SALARY:** Auditor (2 positions)

PL-UNGRADED \$33,000.00 to \$42,000.00 P/A

The salary given will be determined by the qualification of the appointee

**LOCATION:** Office of the Public Auditor (OPA), Saipan

### **DUTIES:**

- Performs assigned financial, operational, compliance audits, and other engagements.
- Conducts or assists in preliminary surveys, preparing audit programs, determining audit procedures to be used, etc. Conducts or assists in performing various audit assignments or special audit projects.
- Tests, verifies and analyzes data using established audit standards, procedures and techniques
- Reviews transactions, documents, records and operational methods to determine adequacy of control and efficiency
- Prepares and organizes supporting documentation, e.g., work papers and schedules for project under review.
- Monitors projects in-progress for adherence to objectives, schedules, deadlines, etc. Keeps supervisor advised of progress of projects.
- Conducts preliminary discussions of apparent deficiencies with operating personnel to verify facts and obtain
- Identifies or assists in distinguishing deficiencies and recommends corrective actions to strengthen controls, improve operations and reduce costs.
- Makes oral reports and/or prepares formal written reports as requested on the results of assigned audits or special projects.
- Maintains effective working relations with operating personnel. Performs other related duties as assigned or requested.

### **QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS:**

- Graduation from an accredited college or university with a Bachelor's Degree in Accounting; or Non-Accounting
- Bachelor's Degree, plus 1 year audit or accounting experience. Copy of degree/official transcript and police clearance must be attached to the application.
- General knowledge of accounting principles and practices, fund accounting. Basic understanding of automated systems and audit procedures and techniques. Basic knowledge of computer operations.
- Good written and oral communication skills.
- Preferred 3 years experience. Preferred Certified Public Accountant (CPA).

### **CONDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS:**

This position is "EXEMPT"; is not eligible to receive overtime payment for overtime hours performed pursuant to Part IV.B16 of the Personnel Service System Rules and Regulation (PSSR/R), Part 1.7C of the Excepted Service Regulation (ESR) and the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA).

NOTE: Education and training claimed under item 19(A) through (F) of the Application for Employment must be substantiated by an official school transcript, diploma, or certificate. FAILURE TO PROVIDE THE REQUIRED DOCUMENTS WILL RESULT IN AUTOMATIC DISQUALIFICATION.

INTERESTED PERSONS SHOULD SEND THEIR CURRENT APPLICATION FORMS TO:

Office of Personnel Management Saipan, MP 96950

Office of Personnel Management Songsong Village Rota, MP 96951

Office of Personnel Management San Jose Village Tinian, MP 96952

JOB LINE IS AVAILABLE 24 HOURS A DAY. PLEASE CALL 233-1606.

## **Business**

## Delta launches 1st airline social media 'Ticket Window'

yesterday launched the industry's first social media 'Ticket Window' enabling bookings directly from its Facebook page and other social media sites. The Delta Ticket Window, along with a newly designed home page at delta.com introduced earlier this week, offers the first visual cues of the airline's planned

"Our customers are spending more time online and are looking for new ways to connect with us. We're now delivering

ATLANTA—Delta Air Lines technology where our custom- lows any of Facebook's 500 ers are—from our own website to our Facebook page to Internet news sites and beyond." said Bob Kupbens, Delta's "We already

know Facebook is the most used website sites, including online banner by inflight WiFi users on more than 2,000 Delta flights every day, giving us the natural launching point for a new online Ticket Window."

Delta's Ticket Window al-

million users to complete a full travel booking using a dedicated "tab" at facebook.com/delta without navigating to delta. vice president—eCommerce. com. Delta plans to expand its Ticket Win-

> dow to other ads to allow full booking capabilities within the airline's advertisements.

> The redesign of Delta's home page is the first step toward a larger redesign which will con

tinue to improve the online experience on delta.com and its affiliated technology, including airport kiosks, to offer more functionality to customers. The immediate home page changes include easier access to flight booking, status updates, online check-in and SkyMiles account information.

Earlier this month Delta enhanced its smartphone site and will continue to deliver other popular consumer applications. In the coming weeks, Delta

plans to launch a new iPhone application to offer customers the ability to check in for flights, check flight status, review flight schedules, set a parking reminder, review SkyMiles account balance and use eBoarding passes (in select cities) directly from their mobile devices. Future releases of the app will enable customers to book flights, select their seats and track their Medallion status and other features that will streamline customer real-time travel experiences.

"Unlocking the full power of social media and mobile apps is the next step for Delta, while providing innovative travel tools and greater convenience in our customer's mobile world," Kupbens said.

Delta has continued to expand its interaction with customers on social sites, including facebook.com/delta, twitter.com/ delta, blog.delta.com and is now providing real-time travel assistance at twitter.com/deltaassist. (Delta Air Lines)

## Barclays to pay **\$298** million in bank case



WASHINGTON (AP)-Barclays Bank PLC has agreed to pay \$298 million over criminal allegations that it illegally engaged in financial transactions with banks in Cuba, Iran, Libya, Sudan and Burma, the Justice Department disclosed in court papers Monday.

The countries are all under economic and trade sanctions by the U.S. government.

Barclays and the Justice Department's criminal division entered into a deferred prosecution agreement for two years that will delay, and in all likelihood ultimately rule out, any criminal proceedings if Barclays demonstrates to federal prosecutors that it complies with U.S. laws.



**BID SUBMISSION DATE: SEPTEMBER 03, 2010** 

"PURCHASE OF FORTY-FIVE (45) SETS OF EDUCATIONAL **MATERIALS AND EQUIPMENTS FOR THE** 

DCCA - CHILD CARE DEVELOPMENT FUND COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATION MAY BE PICKED-UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOWER BASE DR., SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THIS IS A FEDERALLY FUNDED PROJECT; AS SUCH, LOCAL PREFERENCE IS NOT AVAILABLE, BECAUSE IT IS PROHIBITED BY FEDERAL LAW GRANTING FUNDING FOR THIS PROJECT.

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY

**CNMI GOVERNMENT** 

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS RFP10-EMO-145

"COMMUNICATIONS TOWER CONSULTING AND MAINTENANCE

SERVICES FOR THE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE"

COPIES OF THE PACKET MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE EMO OFFICE, COMMUNICATIONS & MAINTENANCE SECTION LOCATED ON CAAPITOL HILL DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

A MANDATORY PRE-PROPOSAL CONFERENCE WILL BE HELD ON <u>AUGUST 27, 2010</u> AT <u>10:00 A.M.</u>, AT THE EMO CONFERENCE ROOM.

QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS PROJECT SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO JOAQUIN (KILROY) I. GUERRERO, COMMUNICATIONS & MAINTENANCE MANAGER AT (670) 322-8001/2/3 OR BY FAX TO (670) 322-9500 OR E-MAIL TO jidlguerrero@cnmiemo.gov.mp NO LATER THAN AUGUST 31. 2010 CLOSE OF BUSINESS.

PREFERENCE IS AVAILABLE TO U.S. CITIZENS OR PERMANENT RESIDENTS AS PER PUBLIC LAW 15-95 AND AS FURTHER AMENDED BY PUBLIC LAW 15-118 AND MUST BE SUBMITTED WITH THE RFP IF PREFERENCE IS CLAIMED.

/S/ MELVIN L.O. FAISAO SECRETARY OF DC&CA

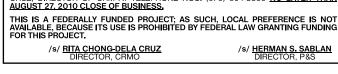
**SUBMISSION: SEPTEMBER 10, 2010** 

/s/ <u>JOAQUIN P. OMAR</u> DEPUTY SPECIAL ASSISTANT FOR EMO/OHS

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN DIRECTOR, P&S

TIME: 2:00 P.M.

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN DIRECTOR P&S



WORKING HOURS.

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY

**CNMI GOVERNMENT** 

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS RFP10-CRM-125

"TO CONDUCT A TASI-WATCH TO RAISE AWARENESS AND ENCOURAGE

PARTICIPATION IN CORAL REEF CONSERVATION ON THE ISLAND OF SAIPAN

FOR THE COASTAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT OFFICE"

COPIES OF THE SCOPE OF WORK MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE COASTAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT OFFICE LOCATED AT THE SPRING'S PLAZA DURING REGULAR

QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS PROJECT SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO RITA CHONG-DELA CRUZ, DIRECTOR OF CRM AT TELEPHONE NOS. (670) 664-8300 NO LATER THAN

SUBMISSION: SEPTEMBER 08, 2010





THE OFFICE OF HOMELAND SECURITY" COPIES OF THE RFP PACKET MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, AT LOWERBASE, DURING

THIS IS A FEDERALLY FUNDED PROJECT; AS SUCH, LOCAL PREFERENCE IS NOT AVAILABLE, BECAUSE ITS USE IS PROHIBITED BY FEDERAL LAW GRANTING FUNDING FOR THIS PROJECT.

/s/ PATRICK J. TENORIO SPECIAL ASSISTANT FOR HOMELAND SECURITY /s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN



### **BUSINESS BRIEFS**

### Fed survey finds easier business lending standards

WASHINGTON (AP)—Banks have eased lending standards for small businesses for the first time in nearly four years, the Federal Reserve said Monday. In its new survey of bank lending practices, the Fed found that the loosening of loan standards was occurring primarily at the country's largest domestic banks. Banks had been reporting relaxed credit standards for big corporations. But the new

survey marked the first indication that credit was beginning to ease for smaller companies.

That could be welcome news for small businesses. Many have complained since the recession hit that they were having more trouble borrowing money to keep operating. The Fed said it was the first time it had found relaxed lending standards being imposed on small businesses since late 2006. The Fed defined small firms as those with annual sales of less than \$50 million.

donations planned

MINNEAPOLIS (AP)—Target

Corp. said Monday it won't give

money to gay-friendly causes to

quiet the uproar over a \$150,000

response, the Human Rights Cam-

paign, a national gay rights group,

said it will contribute \$150,000 of

its own money to political candidates in Minnesota who support

gay marriage, including Democratic gubernatorial candidate

Mark Dayton.

for gay groups

**Target: No** 

## **Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands**

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR **Division of Labor** 

Second Floor Afetña Square Building, San Antonio, P.O. Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950 Telephone no. (670) 236-0907 or 0911 Facsimile no. (670) 236-0992

REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

## PUBLIC NOTICE FOR HEARING

Wednesday, August 11, 2010, First Notice Wednesday, August 18, 2010, Second Notice

The Employee and Employer is hereby notified to report to the Department of Labor, Administrative Hearing Office, 2nd Floor, Afetña Square Building, San Antonio, Saipan for a hearing to address the matter of the complaint. This notice will serve as a "Proof of Service of this Notice of Hearing". For information, please call 236-0900/ ext. 293.

Employee	Employer	Case Number	Date/Time
Ramirez, Rosemarie	L & F Inc. dba: Fishing Tackle	CAC # 10-412-06	08/24/2010 @ 9:00AM
Jocelyn S. Pangan	E.W.G.E. CORP	CAC # 10-431-07	08/24/2010 @10:00AM

Failure to appear on the scheduled date may result in an Administrative Order being entered against you.

Dated this 6th day of August, 2010.

/s/ Frank Aguon Enforcement

**Robert Tenorio Torres** Attorney at Law Plata Drive, Whispering Palms (Chalan Kiya) P.O. Box 503758

Saipan, MP 96950 Tel: (670) 234-7859 Fax. (670) 234-5749

Attorney for Marianas Public Land Trust

### IN THE SUPERIOR COURT **FOR THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS**

MARIANAS PUBLIC ) Civil Action No. LAND TRUST, ) 06-0329-CV SECOND AMENDED Plaintiff NOTICE OF HEARING ON VS. ) PLAINTIFF'S DEWAYNE I. SABLAN and ) MOTION FOR KATHERINE B. VILLANUEVA. ) DEFAULT JUDGMENT Defendants.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on August 31, 2010, at 9:00 am, a hearing will

So notified this 3rd day of August, 2010.

donation that helped support a Minnesota governor candidate who opposes gay marriage. The discount retailing giant said it was "best to wait" given the controversy stirred by its donation, which prompted Facebook calls for a boycott and scattered protests outside stores. An antiboycott site also popped up on Facebook from conservatives supporting Target. "We believe that it is impossible to avoid turning any further actions into a political issue and will use the benefit of time to make thoughtful, careful decisions on how best to move forward," the company said in a statement. In

be held before the Presiding Judge Ramona V. Manglona on Plaintiff's Motion for Default Judgment in the above-captioned matter, at the Superior Court for the CNMI. Guma Hustisia. Civic Center, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

/s/ CLERK OF COURT

SAIPAN TRIBUNE WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 18, 2010 15

## **Nation**

## Shrimping season in La. reopens after spill

GRAND ISLE, La. (AP)—Fishermen who spent much of the summer mopping up oil from BP's disastrous spill got back to work as the fall shrimping season in Louisiana's coastal waters opened Monday amid anxiety over whether the catch will be tainted by crude and whether anyone will buy it even if it is clean

Scores of shrimpers headed out at first light, and early reports indicated a plentiful and clean catch. But a new analysis of federal estimates show the optimism may be premature about how much oil remains in the Gulf

"We're not seeing any oil where I'm at. No tar balls, nothing," said Brian Amos, a 53-year-old shrimper who trawled in his 28-foot skiff, The Rolling Thunder, in a bay near Empire.

It was a step toward normaley for many coastal towns that have been in limbo in the nearly four months since the spill shut down fishing, an economic linchpin for dock owners, restaurants and many other businesses along the Louisiana coast. Louisiana ranks first in the nation in shrimp, blue crab, crawfish and oysters, and the House released.

state's seafood industry overall generates an estimated \$2.4 billion a year.

Five Georgia scientists who reviewed the data said Monday that instead of only 26 percent of the oil remaining, as a federal report said earlier this month, it's actually closer to 80 percent.

"Where has all the oil gone? It hasn't gone anywhere. It still lurks in the deep," said University of Georgia marine scientist Chuck Hopkinson. He headed the quick independent look by the Georgia Sea Grant program at the estimates the White

## Report: Cancer is the world's costliest disease

By MARILYNN MARCHIONE

Cancer is the world's top "economic killer" as well as its likely leading cause of death, the American Cancer Society contends in a new report it will present at a global cancer conference in China this week.

Cancer costs more in productivity and lost life than AIDS, malaria, the flu and other diseases that spread person-to-person, the report concludes.

Chronic diseases including

cancer, heart disease and diabetes account for more than 60 percent of deaths worldwide but less than 3 percent of public and

private funding for global health, said Rachel Nugent of the Cen-

Washington-based policy research group.

Money shouldn't be taken away from fighting diseases that spread person-to-person, but the amount devoted to cancer is

way out of whack with the impact it has, said Dr. Otis Brawley, the cancer society's chief medical officer.

Cancer's ON THE NET economic toll ■ Lancet: http://www.thelanwas \$895 bilcet.com/journals/lancet/onlion in 2008 equivalent

ter for Global Development, a to 1.5 percent of the world's gross domestic product, the report says. That's in terms of disability and years of life lost—not the cost of treating the disease, which wasn't addressed in the report.

Carol Browner said on morning

"More than three-quarters of the

White House energy adviser news shows earlier this month: oil is gone. The vast majority of the oil is gone."

### ACROSS THE NATION

### 6 dead, including 4 children, in Okla. house fire

WELEETKA, Okla. (AP)-An 8-year-old boy who smelled smoke and got out of bed while an alarm rang in his room early Monday was unable to roust anyone else in the house. By the time firefighters arrived, they were unable save six others, including four children. "It smelled like gasoline. I had to fight to get out," Tavis Southern said near the charred home, wearing a sooty orange WWE T-shirt he had on when the fire broke out shortly after 5 a.m. "It was scary." Officials said it appeared an electrical fire that started in the living room was to blame and the only working smoke alarm was in the boy's room.

Tavis said the fire was all around him as he tried to wake others in the home while his mother worked the overnight shift at a nursing home. Running his hands through his buzz-cut hair, he said "the TV blew up on me" before he decided to run to a neighbor's house for help. The neighbors called 911. The boy was treated for smoke inhalation at a hospital and released.

### **Court halts Calif.** gay marriages pending appeal

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—A federal appeals court put samesex weddings in California on hold indefinitely Monday while it considers the constitutionality of the state's gay marriage ban. The decision, issued by a threejudge panel of the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals, trumps a lower court judge's order that would have allowed county clerks to begin issuing marriage licenses to same-sex couples on Wednesday. Lawyers for the two gay couples that challenged the ban said Monday they would not appeal the panel's decision on the stay to the Supreme Court. In its twopage order granting the stay, the 9th Circuit agreed to expedite its consideration of the Proposition 8 case. The court plans to hear the case during the week of Dec. 6 after moving up deadlines for both sides to file their written arguments by Nov. 1.

### **Bodies of 2 toddlers** found in car in **SC** river

ORANGEBURG, S.C. (AP)— After the bodies of two toddlers were pulled Monday from a car submerged in a South Carolina river, their mother was arrested and authorities were investigating how it happened—and whether it was an accident. The two were recovered from the North Edisto River after the car was found near a rural boat landing, Orangeburg County Sheriff Larry Williams said. County Coroner Samuetta Marshall identified them as 18-month-old Ja'van T. Duley and 2-year-old Devean C. Duley, both of Orangeburg. She would not speculate on a cause of death until autopsies are completed Tuesday. The boys' mother, whose name was not immediately released, was being held Monday on a charge of leaving the scene of an accident, Williams said.



### Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Office of the Secretary of Public Works

2nd Floor Joeten Commercial Building, Gualo Rai Saipan, MP 96950



### **INVITATION FOR BIDS DPW10-IFB-016**

### REMOVAL OF RAISED MEDIAN

Governor Benigno R. Fitial and Lt. Governor Eloy S. Inos, through the Department of Public Works (DPW) are soliciting sealed bids for the Proposed Removal of Raised Median, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The project package will be available on or after August 11, 2010 at DPW Technical Services Division 1353 Mednilla Avenue Capitol Hill. A non-refundable payment of One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) is required for each set. Payment must be made to the CNMI Treasurer and a receipt of payment must be presented when obtaining the Scope of Work at DPW Technical Services Division.

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, dated May 24, 2001. Preference is available to US Citizen as per Public Law 15-95 and as further amended by Public Law 15-118. Prospective bidders claiming for US Citizen preference are required to submit *P&S Form 100 (Revised 12/20/07)* with their sealed bids. A Pre-bid Conference is scheduled for August 30, 2010, 9:00 a.m. local time at the project site located at Tanapag in front of I-Mart Store.

Prospective bidders should examine and review the invitation for bids with care. If it should appear to a prospective bidder that the performance of the work under the contract or any of the matters relative thereto is not sufficiently described or explained in the invitation for bids, or that any discrepancy exists between different parts of the invitation for bids, or that the full intent of the invitation for bids is not clear, then the prospective bidder shall submit a written request for clarification no later than ten (10) working days before the scheduled bid opening at 4:30 pm to Mr. Joseph M. Inos, Jr., Director of Technical Services Division, 1353 Mednilla Avenue-Capitol Hill, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547. The prospective bidder shall examine carefully the site of the proposed work and the invitation for bids before submitting a bid.

The Contracting Officer (CO) may, upon recommendation of the Contracting Officer's Technical Representative (COTR), issue an addendum In e Contracting Officer (CO) may, upon recommendation of the Contracting Officer's reconnical Representative (COTR), issue an addendum notifying all prospective bidders known to have received an invitation for bids, or if issued after the deadline for submission of the notice of intention to bid, to those persons who submitted such notice, of any changes to the invitation for bids. The Department of Public Works will make every reasonable attempt to notify all persons who have obtained the invitation for bids from the Technical Services Division by telephone to pick up the addendum or if the CO chooses, the addendum may be mailed or delivered personally or by facsimile machine. If the bid proposal requires the acknowledgement of addenda, the prospective bidder shall indicate the date of each addendum in the space provided. It shall be the prospective bidder's responsibility to confirm the existence of any addendum by telephoning the COTR at (670) 234-9828/38 no later than ten (10) working days before the scheduled bid opening.

Sealed bids must be marked "DPW10-JFB-016". For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, no later than 10:00 a.m. local time September 14, 2010. Bidders located outside the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to bid. Notices of Intent to bid must be received by the Director of Procurement & Supply no later than 10:00 a.m. local time, September 14, 2010 and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to <a href="mailto:procurement@plicom.com">procurement@plicom.com</a>. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than September 14, 2010, and must be received no later than September 23, 2010. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly opened and read at the Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, at 10:00 a.m. local time, September 28, 2010. However, if no notices of intent to bid were received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be opened at 10:00 a.m. local time, on

For bids greater than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000) a bid security of fifteen (15%) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. A surety company shall hold the Certificate of Authority (COA) from the U.S. Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General and must accompany the bid. Bid security may be a Certified Check, Cashier's Check or Bid Bond. Checks must be made payable to the CNMI Treasurer, with the name of the bidder and a notation on the face of the check: "Credit Account No. 44660". If a bid bond is submitted it must be accompanied by an Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC).

The bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with NMIAC §70-30.3-301 of the Procurement Regulations. The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with the CNMI Government and will be required to deliver Performance and Payment bonds, each equal to 100% of the contract price for contracts greater than \$25,000.00. The surety company providing the Performance and Payment bonds must hold a Certificate of Authority from the U.S. Department of Treasury as an acceptable surety and must be authorized to conduct business in the CNMI. In addition, the contractor will be required to deliver a certification from the bonding company that the unencumbered value of its assets (exclusive of all outstanding commitments or other bond obligations) exceeded the penal amount of each bond.

Performance time for completion of this project is Thirty (30) Working days upon issuance of an official written Notice to Proceed. Liquidated damages will be assessed at One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) per calendar day for delays beyond the established completion date.

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not effect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN



## Asia

### IN NEW CHINA FLOODING

## 36 killed, hundreds injured

**BEIJING** (AP)—At least 36 through the city on Aug. 8. The people have died and 23 others are missing in fresh flooding from torrential rains in China's Gansu province, the latest in a string of natural disasters to strike China.

The official Xinhua News Agency reported that the deaths came Monday from flooding in Longnan city near Zhouqu. Zhouqu is where at least 1,254 people were killed as a mudslide triggered by heavy rain crashed

government says another 490 people are still missing from that disaster.

Since Aug. 11, heavy rains have pelted several counties in Longnan city, triggering landslides, Xinhua said. It said the latest flooding left 295 people injured and more than 6,000 homes collapsed. Flooding has cut off electricity and damaged roads.

In Zhouqu on Tuesday, workers used bulldozers and cranes to dig and search for the missing as rains threatened to hinder rescue efforts, Xinhua reported.

Up to 3 inches (8 centimeters) of rain is expected in the area through Thursday, it said.

China regularly suffers devastating summer floods, but this year has been unusually severe. Storms killed at least 1,500 people nationwide before the Zhouqu landslide and caused tens of billions of dollars in damage.

### Afghan govt: 4 months to disband security firms

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)— Afghanistan's president is issuing an ultimatum to thousands of private security contractors he says are undermining his nation's army and police force: Cease operations in four months.

President Hamid Karzai's strident decision, announced Monday by his spokesman, is expected to meet resistance from NATO officials who rely heavily on private security companies to guard convoys and installations across the country.

With complaints that they are poorly regulated, reckless and effectively operate outside local law, such operators have become a point of contention

between the Afghan government and U.S. and NATO coalition forces and the international community.

"The security companies have to go," presidential spokesman Waheed Omar said Monday as he announced the deadline.

In Washington, Pentagon spokesman Bryan Whitman questioned whether a fourmonth deadline was realistic.

"I think everyone looks forward to the day when private security companies can be eliminated altogether from Afghanistan because the security situation is such that they are no longer needed," Whitman said.

"Until that time, though,

we're going to continue to work with the government of Afghanistan to improve the oversight and management as well as developing plans to progressively reduce their numbers as security conditions permit."

Maj. Joel Harper, a U.S. military spokesman in Kabul, said the military supports Karzai's goal of eliminating private security companies, but that doing so requires "a deliberate process that recognizes the scale and scope of the issue."

Karzai pledged in his inauguration speech in November to shutter both foreign and domestic security contractors by November 2011.

### Taliban stone couple for adultery in Afghanistan

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)— Taliban militants in northern Afghanistan stoned a young couple to death for adultery, which a rights group said was the first confirmed use of the punishment here since the hardline Islamist regime was ousted in 2001.

The Taliban-ordered killing comes at a time when international rights groups have raised worries that attempts to negotiate with the Taliban to bring peace to Afghanistan could mean a step backward for human rights in the country. When the Islamist extremists ruled Afghanistan, women were not allowed to leave their houses without a male guardian, and public killings for violations of their harsh interpretation of the Quran were common.

This weekend's stoning appeared to arise from an affair between a married man and a single woman in Kunduz province's Dasht-e-Archi district.

The woman, Sadiqa, was 20 years old and engaged to another man, said the Kunduz provincial police chief, Gen. Abdul Raza Yaqoubi. Her lover, 28-year-old Qayum, left his wife to run away with her, and the two had holed up in a friend's house five days ago, said district government head, Mohammad Ayub Aqyar.

They were discovered by Taliban operatives on Sunday and stoned to death in front a crowd of about 150 men, Agyar said.

## **ASIAN BRIEFS**

### **Death toll for China** fireworks blast rises to 19

**BEIJING** (AP)—The death toll from a massive explosion at a fireworks factory in northeast China rose Tuesday to at least 19 workers, with five still missing. Up to 50 people were working at the fireworks factory in the Heilongjiang province city of Yichun when it was rocked by the explosion Monday, damaging nearby buildings and sparking secondary blasts, according to a statement on the local government's website. Xinhua News Agency reported the death toll rose to 19 on Tuesday, with five missing. A total of 153 people were injured by the blast, which could be felt up to 2 miles (5 kilometers) away and smashed windows in the local government offices and other

appeared to include workers at the factory as well as people in the surrounding area, but the report gave no details.

buildings, Xinhua said. The tally

### 6 electrocuted during construction in Philippines

MANILA, Philippines (AP)— Police in the Philippines say six people were electrocuted by a light bulb that short circuited while they were working on a septic tank. Reports from police and DZRH radio station say eight people were working on the septic tank in Guinlajon village in the central Bicol region when one of them was shocked after being exposed to a live wire. Five others who came to his help were also electrocuted late Monday. Police spokesman Agrimero Cruz says two people survived and are being treated in a hospital for severe burns.

### American, 16, arrested in mother's death in India

JAIPUR, India (AP)—A teenage American has been arrested on suspicion of killing his mother in a tourist resort in western India, police said Monday. The woman, identified as Cindy Iannarelli, of Cecil, Pennsylvania, was found with her throat slit at the resort in the historic town of Osian in Rajasthan state last Thursday. Police superintendent Girdhari Lal Sharma said the 16-year-old son, Joncarlo Patton, was questioned and later arrested on Saturday. A judge ordered he be sent to a juvenile detention facility pending investigation.

## World

1 DIES, 130 LIVE

## 'Miracle' in Colombia jet crash



A police officer stands by a crashed plane sitting on the runaway at the airport on San Andres island in Colombia, Monday Aug. 16, 2010.

BOGOTA, Colombia (AP)— A Boeing 737 jetliner filled with vacationers crashed in a thunderstorm and broke apart as it slid onto the runway on a Caribbean island Monday. Only one of the 131 people on board died, and the island's governor called it a miracle.

The plane hit short of the runway on Colombia's San Andres Island and skidded on its belly as the fuselage fractured and bits of landing gear and at least one engine were ripped off. The jet wound up on one end of the runway, crumpled and in pieces, as passengers scrambled or were helped to safety.

Of the 125 passengers and six crew members aboard the Aires airline jet, the only one killed was a 68-year-old woman, Amar Fernandez de Barreto, said San Andres Gov. Pedro Gallardo.

"It was a miracle and we have to give thanks to God," Gallardo said.

Officials were investigating a range of possible causes and looking into reports that Aires Flight 8520 was hit by lightning before the crash on the resort island, Colombian air force Col. David Barrero said.

"You can't speculate. Lightning? A gust of wind? The investigation will say," Barrero said by telephone from San Andres. "The pilot's skill kept the plane from colliding with the airport."

Officials said 119 people were treated or checked at clinics and five of them were seriously injured.

The airline said at least five U.S. citizens were on the plane, while the U.S. Embassy in Colombia said that four Americans and one U.S. permanent resident suffered injuries. The embassy

said one critically injured American was being flown to Bogota for care, while the others were treated and released.

Airline representative Erika Zarante said four Brazilians, two Germans, two Costa Ricans and two French citizens also were on the plane.

The accident occurred so suddenly that the pilot did not report an emergency to the control tower, said Col. Donald Tascon, deputy director of the civil aeronautics agency. He said the plane's low altitude as it prepared to land—perhaps 100 feet (30 meters) just before the crash—may have averted worse damage.

Passenger Ricardo Ramirez, a vacationing civil engineer, told Caracol Radio that all had seemed normal, even though the plane was flying through a storm, with flashes of lightning, as it neared the airport.

### **WORLD BRIEFS**

### On Facebook: Israeli soldier posed with bound Arab

JERUSALEM (AP)—A former Israeli soldier posted photos on Facebook of herself in and blindfolded Palestinian prisoners, drawing sharp criticism Monday from the Israeli military and Palestinian officials. Israeli news websites and blogs showed two photographs of the woman. In one, she is sitting legs crossed beside a blindfolded Palestinian man who is slumped against a concrete barrier. His face is turned downwards, while she leans toward him with her face upturned. Another shows her smiling at the camera with three Palestinian men with bound hands and blindfolds behind her. The incident was a reminder of the fraught relations between Israeli

soldiers and the West Bank Palestinians under their control.

### **Mexico: Hunting** party of 8 killed in **Oaxaca state**

uniform smiling beside bound OAXACA, Mexico (AP)— Attackers shot eight men to death and piled their bodies in a pickup truck in the southern state of Oaxaca, and gunmen kidnapped the mayor of a city on the outskirts of the northern industrial hub of Monterrey, Mexican authorities said Monday. It was unclear whether Mexico's drug gangs were responsible for the Oaxaca killings or the kidnapping of Mayor Edelmiro Cavazos of the city of Santiago, in the northern border state of Nuevo Leon. But Nuevo Leon state prosecutor Alejandro Garza described the abducted mayor as "leading the front and showing his face in the fight against organized crime." He said no ransom demand had yet been received.

### **Communists:** 'Jackal' should return to Venezuela CARACAS, Venezuela

(AP)—Venezuela's Communist Party urged the government on Monday to seek the repatriation of convicted terrorist "Carlos the Jackal," who is serving a life sentence in France for murder. Party representative Pedro Eusse said President Hugo Chavez's administration should ask France to let Ramirez serve the remainder of his sentence in his homeland. The Venezuelan-born prisoner, whose real name is Ilich Ramirez Sanchez, is not getting adequate health care in France and authorities there are denving his right to communicate with lawyers, Eusse charged.

SAIPAN TRIBUNE WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 18, 2010 17



In this Aug. 15, 2010 file photo, a U.S. Customs and Border Patrol agent patrols along the Arizona-Mexico border wall in Hereford, Ariz.

# FORT HANCOCK, Texas (AP)—After a bad day on the job as a Border Patrol agent, Eddie DeLaCruz went home and began discussing with his wife how to celebrate her upcoming birthday. Then he casually pressed his government-issued handgun under his chin and pulled the trigger.

"It was the ugliest sound I ever heard in my life," his widow, Toni DeLaCruz, recalled of that day last November. "He just collapsed."

A month later, one of DeLaCruz's colleagues at the Fort Hancock border post put a bullet through his head, too.

Suicides including these have set off alarm bells throughout the agency responsible for policing the nation's borders. After nearly four years without a single suicide in their ranks, border agents are killing themselves in greater numbers. Records obtained by The Associated Press show that at least 15 agents have taken their own lives since February 2008—the largest spike in suicides the agency has seen in at least 20 years.

It's unclear exactly why the men ended their lives. Few of them left notes. And the Border Patrol seems somewhat at odds with itself over the issue.

Federal officials insist the deaths have nothing to do with the agency, which has doubled in size since 2004, or the increasingly volatile U.S.-Mexico border. But administrators have quietly undertaken urgent suicide-prevention initiatives, including special training for supervisors, videos about warning signs and educational programs for 22,000 agents nationwide.

"It's a microcosm of life," said Christine Gaugler, head of human resources for Customs and Border Protection, the agency that oversees the Border Patrol. "There's no uptick. It has nothing to do with our hiring. We are just responding to the suicides that have occurred."

The agency declined to provide details of the suicides and would only confirm the number of deaths since 2008. But the AP uncovered the names, locations and dates of the suicides by reviewing public records, including those obtained from medical examiners

through the Freedom of Information Act, and speaking with federal officials who spoke to the AP on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to talk about this issue.

People who had seen the training video also provided the AP a copy of it, along with information about what steps federal officials have taken to address the suicides.

The 17-minute video made earlier this year is part tribute to the dead and part cautionary tale. It implores agents battling depression or stress to ask for help—a candid suggestion for an agency that once forbid agents from appearing in uniform at the funerals of colleagues who killed themselves.

The video was made by the agency's El Paso sector following at least four suicides among its agents, and it has been embraced by other sectors. In the video, El Paso agent Edmundo Puga Jr. describes getting a call about a suicide.

"At first I get upset, thinking, 'Not another one," Puga said. "Or, 'Here we go again."

All but two of the recent deaths involved agents stationed in Texas, California or Arizona.

In interviews with the AP, Border Patrol officials and families of the dead agents pointed to both professional and personal reasons.

The job, which starts at about \$37,000 a year, has changed dramatically since the hiring surge began. Two years ago, an agent at a busy border station might have processed 150 illegal crossers a day.

But stepped-up border security—including 600 miles of fence and an even larger "virtual" fence that is monitored online—has reduced the number of illegal crossings, as has the economic hardship of the recession.

The result is a job that went from thrilling to downright boring. Agents

often spent 12-hour shifts sitting alone in Jeeps and pickups keeping watch for illegal immigrants.

"Now an agent may start his shift and sit in one position for eight hours and monitor traffic and do their work," said psychologist Kenneth Middleton, clinical director of the Border Patrol's peer-support program. "Now they've got a whole lot of time to think about other things going on in their life."

Other Border Patrol agents defend the job as anything but boring. Thane Gallagher, a 13-year veteran of the agency stationed in San Diego, said Monday that the pressures of meticulously documenting and thoroughly questioning every captured immigrant have mounted since the Sept. 11 attacks.

Even for agents assigned to monitor-

others were throwing rocks at the agent from the Mexican side while he was trying to arrest illegal immigrants. The incident resulted in a tense standoff between armed federal agents from both Mexico and the U.S.

The story rang familiar to Mark Monsivais, whose daughter, Julia, committed suicide in July 2009. He said people hurled chunks of concrete at the 24-year-old agent during her three years in Yuma, Ariz.

Other times, he said, his daughter complained of lagging backup patrolling a dangerous and barren stretch known as "Devil's Corridor." She worried about running into drug traffickers but more often stumbled on dehydrated migrants collapsed in the sand, their legs twitching.

"It's transparent to us, the people that

Law enforcement rates are about 20 per 100,000, while the Border Patrol's pace has the agency hovering in the upper 20s to low 30s per 100,000.

Some families said working for the Border Patrol had no bearing on their loved one's suicide. The parents of 29-year-old Charles Glenn Becker, who killed himself in May 2009 in Comstock, Texas, said he was up for promotion.

But Juan Tellez, the guard who committed suicide a month after DeLaCruz last fall, didn't think a promotion was in his future. His girlfriend, Christina Vasquez, said Tellez constantly butted heads with his supervisor over schedules and assignments. Tellez desperately wanted a transfer and turned to Fort Hancock's union steward for help—agent Eddie DeLaCruz.

# It's transparent to us, the people that are here, that the job is a definite factor. They're under an enormous amount of stress.

ing posts along the fence, Gallagher said, it's "not a position that just lends you to sitting there drooling on yourself."

"If an agent is bored everyday at work, that's a choice they make," said Gallagher, a union representative in his sector. "There is always work to be done."

The potential for danger is constant, especially in places where the border has been wracked by a bloody drug war in Mexico.

Agents face hostility from many of the people they encounter in the desert. In June, a Border Patrol agent in El Paso shot and killed a 15-year-old Mexican boy in the dry bed of the Rio Grande. Authorities said the teen and are here, that the job is a definite factor. They're under an enormous amount of stress," Monsivais said.

"If they do something wrong," he added, "it's an international incident."

The job was so dangerous the family has doubts about whether it was suicide. Relatives wonder whether Julia could have been killed by shady characters she met on patrol.

Suicide rates are generally higher among law enforcement than the general population, but the Border Patrol's recent troubles put the agency even above those numbers.

The rate of suicides nationally is about 12 per 100,000 people, according to the Centers for Disease Control.

DeLaCruz's suicide put her boyfriend over the edge. A month later, he stumbled home drunk, grabbed the gun from his holster and blew a hole as large as a coffee mug through his head.

Vasquez, four months' pregnant with their first child, was in the room.

"He loved being in Border Patrol," she said. "But toward the end when he was in that shift, he would call me for two hours and just go on and ramble."

Vasquez and DeLaCruz's widow agreed that the rush to double the agency's ranks caused it to overlook morale.

"The agency does run these agents to the fullest," DeLaCruz said. "Protect, protect' as if they're robots and they're not. They're human beings."

## Campus Life

# Back to School: 2010-2011

y August, summertime will be winding down and vacations will be coming to an end, signaling that back-to-school time is near. It's a time that many children eagerly anticipate—catching up with old friends, making new ones and settling into a new daily routine. Parents and children alike scan the newspapers and websites looking for sales to shop for a multitude of school supplies and the latest clothing fads and essentials. This edition of Facts for Features highlights the many statistics associated with the return to classrooms by our nation's students and teachers.



### **Back-to-School Shopping**

**\$7.2 billion:** The amount of money spent at family clothing stores in August 2009. Only in December were sales significantly higher. Similarly, sales at bookstores in August 2009 totaled \$2.5 billion, an amount approached in 2009 only by sales in January.

For back-to-school shopping, choices of retail establishments abound: In 2007, there were 27,326 family clothing stores, 7,036 children and infants clothing stores, 27,213 shoe stores, 9,754 office supply and stationery stores, 23,756 sporting goods stores, 10,635 bookstores and 10,116 department stores.

### Students

**76 million:** The number of children and adults enrolled in school throughout the country in October 2008—from nursery school to college. They comprised 27 percent of the entire population 3 and older.

### Pre-K through 12 enrollment

**53 percent:** Percentage of 3- and 4-year-olds enrolled in school in October 2008.

**72 percent:** Percentage of children 3 to 6 enrolled in kindergarten who attended all day, as of October 2008.

**56 million:** The projected number of students to be enrolled in the nation's elementary through high schools (grades K-12) this fall.

**11 percent:** Projected percentage of elementary through high school students enrolled in private schools this fall.

**43 percent:** Percentage of elementary through high school students who were nonwhite (single race) or Hispanic, as of October 2008.

**22 percent:** Percentage of elementary through high school students who had at least one foreign-born parent in October 2008. Five percent were foreign-born themselves.

**50 percent:** Percentage of kindergarten through 12th-grade students in California who had at least one foreignborn parent in 2006. California led the nation, followed by Nevada with 36 percent. New York, Florida, Texas, Arizona, New Jersey and Hawaii were some of the states that also had at least one-quarter of students this age with at least one foreign-born parent.

Nearly 80 percent: Percentage of students ages 12 to 17 who were academically on-track in 2006, up 8 percentage points from 1998. The odds of being on-track were 48 percent higher for these students if they were in a gifted class and 34 percent higher if they had never been suspended or expelled from school. (Students were considered to be academically ontrack if they were enrolled in school at or above the grade level appropriate for their age.)

**52 percent:** Percentage of 12- to 17-year-olds who were highly engaged in school in 2006, up 5 percentage

2008; 7.8 million of these children spoke Spanish at home.

**45 percent:** Percentage of children enrolled in kindergarten through 12th grade in California who spoke a language other than English at home in 2006. California, which led all states, was followed by Texas (35 percent), New Mexico (34 percent) and Arizona (32 percent). The national average was 21 percent. (The percentages for Texas and New Mexico were not significantly different from one another.)

### Lunchtime

**31 million:** Average number of children participating each month in the national school lunch program in 2008.

**10 billion:** The nation's total apple production, in pounds, in 2009. The chances are good that the apples your children present to their teachers or enjoy for lunch were grown in Washington state, which accounted for more than half of the nation's total production.

### College

**19.1 million:** The projected number of students enrolled in the nation's colleges and universities this fall. This is up from 13.8 million 20 years ago.

**16 percent:** Percentage of all college students 35 and older in October 2008. They made up 36 percent of those attending school part time.

**64 percent:** Percentage of undergraduates enrolled in four-year colleges in October 2008. Of those enrolled



points from 1998. For 6- to 11-yearolds, the respective increase was from 56 percent to 59 percent.

**41 percent:** Percentage of 6- to 17-year-olds who participated in sports in 2006, up from 34 percent in 1998. Participation in sports was the most popular extracurricular activity.

### Languages

10.9 million: Number of school-age children (5 to 17) who spoke a language other than English at home in

in such schools, 83 percent attended full time.

**49 percent:** Percentage of 18- and 19-year-olds enrolled in college in 2008.

**55 percent:** Percentage of college students who were women in October 2008.

**40 percent:** Percentage of New Jersey residents who were college freshmen and attended school in-state, the lowest rate in the nation among states (as

of fall 2006). Utah, at 90 percent, had the highest rate. (The District of Columbia had a rate of 29 percent.)

**26 percent:** Among freshmen enrolled in colleges and universities in Rhode Island, the percentage enrolled in their home state—the lowest percentage in the nation among states in 2006. Texas (92 percent) had the highest percentage in 2006. (The District of Columbia had a rate of 7 percent.)

# eatures System

### **How Many Schools?**

**98,793:** Number of public schools in 2006-07. In 2007-08, there were 28,218 private schools.

**4,352:** Number of institutions of higher education in 2007.

**3,970:** The number of public charter schools nationwide in 2006-07. These schools, exempt from selected state and local rules and regulations, enrolled 1.2 million students.

## Teachers and Other School Personnel

**7.2 million:** Number of teachers in the United States in 2008. Almost 3 million taught at the elementary and middle school level. The remainder included those teaching at the post-secondary, secondary, preschool and kindergarten levels.

**\$63,640:** Average annual salary of public school teachers in California as of the 2006-2007 school year—the highest of any state. Teachers in South Dakota received the lowest pay—\$35,378. The national average was \$50,758. High school principals earned \$97,486 annually in 2007-08.

**\$16.56:** Average hourly wage for the nation's school bus drivers in 2007-08. Custodians earned \$14.19, while cafeteria workers made \$11.60.

### Technology

**14.2 million:** Number of computers available for classroom use in the nation's schools as of the 2005-2006 school year. That works out to one

computer for every four students.

### The Rising Cost of College

**\$14,915:** Average tuition, room and board (for in-state students) at the nation's four-year public colleges and universities for an academic year (2007-08). That was more than double the cost in 1990.

**\$40,640:** Average tuition, room and board at the nation's four-year private colleges and universities for one academic year (2007-08). That also was more than double the 1990 figure.

### The Rewards of Staying in School

**\$83,144:** Average annual 2008 earnings of workers 18 and older with an advanced degree. This compares with \$21,023 for those without a high school diploma.

In addition, those with a bachelor's degree earned an average of \$58,613 in 2008, while those with a high school diploma earned \$31,283.

**\$75,621:** Average starting salary offered to bachelor's degree candidates in petroleum engineering in 2008, among the highest of any field of study. At the other end of the spectrum were those majoring in a social science, who were offered an average of \$39,476.

### Graduation

**3.3 million:** Projected number of high school diplomas that will be awarded in the 2010-11 school year.

**3.3 million:** Number of college degrees expected to be conferred in the 2010-11 school year.

## **Government Spending** on Public Education

**\$9,666:** The per-pupil expenditure on public elementary and secondary education nationally in 2007. New York (\$15,981) spent the most among states or state equivalents, followed by New Jersey (\$15,691) and the District of Columbia (\$14,324). Utah (\$5,683) spent the least per student, followed by Idaho (\$6,625) and Tennessee (\$7,113).

### **Parental Involvement**

**89 percent:** Among K-12 students, the percentage with a parent or other household member who attended a general school or PTO/PTA meeting during the 2006-07 school year. Additionally, 65 percent had such a relative who participated in school fundraising and 46 percent who volunteered to serve on a school committee.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

SAIPAN TRIBUNE WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 18, 2010 19

## Life & Style

'Eat Pray Love' exalts purists' gelato in Rome

ROME (AP)—Named for a saint and naturally tasting heavenly, San Crispino gelato already was a passthe-word must for devotees of the Italian treat.

Then a Roman bus driver gave Elizabeth Gilbert the buzz—"The Best Gelato In Rome"—and San Crispino became enshrined in her how-I-found-the-real-me journeymemoir, "Eat Pray Love." Fans have been making pilgrimages for melt-in-your-mouth inspiration ever since.

In the book that's now become a movie Gilbert recounts her rapturous encounter, not once, but three times in one day, with the gelato. In a single, mouthwatering paragraph, she waxes enthusiastic about the flavors. First she had the honey and hazelnut combo, then she returned for a pairing of grapefruit and melon, and yet again for an exotic nightcap of cinnamon-ginger.

While playing just a bit part in the movie, gelato is getting a big boost from the film's ads, with Julia Roberts, who plays Gilbert, with a puckish look on her face and a cup of (presumably) San Crispino ice cream in her hand as she sits on a stone bench in Piazza Navona.

Gelato worshippers intent on finding this Roman temple of gelato, however, don't get much help from Gilbert. She doesn't say just where she had her San Crispino gelato.



In this Aug. 12, 2010 photo, customers place their orders at the San Crispino in Rome. Named for a saint and naturally tasting heavenly, San Crispino was already a pass-the-word must for gelato purists even before being enshrined by "Eat Pray Love" on the pilgrimage route to melt-inyour mouth pleasure

Did love-at-first-lick come on Via della Panettieria, a narrow street near Trevi Fountain?

Or at the San Crispino franchise-horrors! yes, the "best" gelato in Rome is franchised—on Piazza della Maddalena, a tiny square behind the Pantheon?

Or perhaps at the gelateria where the two brothers who founded San Crispino opened their first location, in 1992, on Via Acaia in the working class San Giovanni neighborhood?

Wherever Gilbert had her gelato epiphany, "we are happy we were cited in the book and especially that she liked our gelato," Pasquale Alongi, one of the brothers, modestly said as lemons were squeezed for San Crispino's "limone" gelato in the "laboratory" on Via Acaia.

Giuseppe Alongi said he and his brother set out to make gelato with "equilibrium" and create flavors that are not too sweet and with only natural ingredients.

Pasquale, a former law student, and Giuseppe, a former medical student, were inspired by the fresh-tasting pastry made by their mother from the South Tyrol region near Austria. Their father is from Sicily, also known for the freshest of ingredients, such as the pistachios from Bronte, a town on use in San Crispino gelato.

"When we make lemon flavor, we use only good Amalfi lemons," said Pasquale. "If we don't find them, we do not make the lemon flavor."

Crispino's lemon gelato coats the tongue with silkiness bordering on sensual, yet presents enough pizazz to almost cause a pucker.

come in contact with gelato.

customers when we tell them we have no cones," he said in his store near the Trevi Fountain.

proach, everything natural, no intense colors, no flavorings," said Francesco Amore, the San Crispino franchisee near the Pantheon who said he became a "disciple" of the gelato when a friend introduced him to it.

"You have to have a very refined palate to appreciate it," said Amore, recalling how the Alongis fermented basil leaves for six months and made all of two tubs of basil gelato last fall. The basil flavor was quickly scooped up, and then it was finito.

For Italians, gelato is more than a sweet treat. "It's a moment for us to get together," Amore said, venturing that Romans are loyal to their gelato shops in the same way they grow up with lifetime loyalties to one or the other of their local soccer teams.

And that love has been a lasting one. Some 2,000 years ago historian Pliny the Elder cited a recipe using snow, honey and fruit nectar. Around the same era, Emperor Nero, notorious for partying in his fabled Golden Palace in Rome, was said to have devoured copious portions of frozen fruit drenched in honey.

An almost reverent air pervades a San Crispino gelateria. Unlike other shops in Rome, which display a riot of colors and textures of gelati brimming in display tubs to set customers salivating, San Crispino keeps the flavors of the day in 22 "pozzetti," or metal tubs covered with shiny lids.

Workers behind the counter lift the lids with a delicate motion, as if they are about to open a container of precious jewels, then offer tiny spoonfuls for the undecided to taste.

Pairings of flavors are chalked in on a blackboard entitled the 'San Crispino Experience'" to guide customers, said Amore, who added he gently suggests what he hopes will prove to be a happy marriage of flavors.

On this boiling August day the

combos include hazelnut meringue, white fig and cream; pink grapefruit and chocolate and rum. as well as the classic pairing that so impressed Gilbert—San Crispino honey with ginger-cinnamon.

Contrary to what Gilbert writes, San Crispino does not mean the "crispy saint." The Alongis chose the name because the saint is the patron of shoemakers and is pictured with tools in his hand, an image the brothers thought captured the handmade care behind their product.

"We wanted to find the best ice cream in Rome, but it actually said it is not only the best ice cream in Rome, it is the best ice cream in Italy, and we think it is," said Steve Donague from Manchester, England. He was ecstatic that there was "lots of rum" in trio of Armagnac, rum and chocolate combo.

Of course, Rome is a city all but bursting with gelato. And while the no-cone formula evidently worked for Gilbert, those who like to share their licks are hardly left in the cold.

Dutch tourist Peter Der Graaf polished off a cone of strawberry. pear and limoncello, made from the dessert liquor, at his favorite gelato haunt in Rome, Giolitti's, a family-run place that has been making gelato for some 100 years and is arguably the Italian capital's best-known gelateria.

"I like the taste, the coldness, the texture," said Der Graaf, as his 9-year-old son, Jelle, took a few licks from his dad's cone outside the shop, near the Italian Parliament.

Nazzareno Giolitti, whose namesake grandfather first started dishing out gelato in the early 1900s, ventured that eating gelato is "a form of socialization. It's being together with a family."

## Florence and state spar over 'David'

**ROME** (AP)—Florence's mayor is defending his city's ownership of Michelangelo's marble masterpiece "David" after the Culture Ministry reportedly asserted that the treasure belongs to the central government in Rome.

The Renaissance-style feud broke out over the weekend with reports that Rome was laying claim to the sculpture, one of the most popular tourist attractions in Italy.

Michelangelo completed the 4.34-meter (14 foot)-high nude statue in Florence in 1504, and its home has been the city's Galleria dell'Accademia for more than 100 years.

Florence Mayor Matteo Renzi said the statue, along with other treasures, was ceded to the city of Florence by a decree in 1870 or 1871 when Rome became the capital of newly formed modern Italy.

"David is ours," Renzi told La Repubblica over the weekend in an interview broadcast on its website. "That's what the documents say."

Lawyers commissioned by the culture ministry in Rome, however, argue that Florence



Michelangelo's marble masterpiece, "David."

cannot own "David" because, over the centuries, the sculpture passed from sovereign state to sovereign state, starting with the Medici's rule.

Culture Minister Sandro

Bondi called the debate "absurd and inopportune."

"Michelangelo's David is a symbol of cultural unity for Florence and for Italy," Bondi said in a statement Monday. "The problem of ownership of a piece of art, posed in propagandistic terms by Florence's mayor, is a petty one."

He said the issue could be resolved by joint management.

Renzi sees the government's move as a grab for money, including the reported €8 million (\$10 million) in annual ticket sales to view the masterpiece.

He complained in newspaper interviews that the government was quick to grab the revenue, but was not doing its part to help Florence pay for cleaning and maintenance of infrastructure sorely tried by tourists.

"This government is federalist when it comes to spending, and centralist when it is time to cash in," Renzi said.

Florence officials are also upset that Premier Silvio Berlusconi has not kept an electoral promise to give Florence more freedom in dealing with its historic and artistic treasures.

the slopes of the Etna volcano. They are the only pistachios the brothers consider good enough to

That would be a shame. San

And there are no cones at San Crispino because, as Giuseppe explained it, cones are "contaminated" by greasing agents used in baking pans and thus shouldn't

"We lose 30 percent of our

"The owners have a purist ap-

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In this photo taken on Thursday, Aug. 5, 2010, Miss Universe 2009 Stefania Fernandez from Venezuela, poses for a photo at the Roosevelt Hollywood hotel in Los Angeles. The 2010 Miss Universe Pageant will be held in Las Vegas on Aug. 23.

By OSKAR GARCIA ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

LAS VEGAS (AP) — Miss Universe 2009 Stefania Fernandez says it's clear in her mind who'll replace her as the world's top

"I have my five favorites but I can't tell you. I'll tell you August 24," one day after the Miss Universe pageant, Fernandez said Monday. "It's a secret."

But when asked whether she thought the competition was close or clear, Fernandez said: "It's clear."

Fernandez, of Venezuela, won last year at age 18. It was Venezuela's second straight and sixth overall win since the pageant started in 1952.

Fernandez said at a gathering of more than 20 Latina contenders that Hispanic women are always a threat to win because they work hard to prepare for the competition and look good.

She said in Venezuela, girls prepare for Miss Universe by taking classes to learn English, public speaking and how to properly put on makeup.

Each of 83 contestants won their national competition to make the global Miss Universe pageant. The two-hour pageant co-owned by NBC and Donald Trump is scheduled for Aug. 23 at the Mandalay Bay Events Center, hosted by rocker Bret Michaels and NBC news correspondent Natalie Morales.

Contestants will compete in swimsuit, evening gown and interview competitions, with the broadcast distributed to roughly 190 countries.

Miss Great Britain Tara Vaitiere Hoyos said she thinks the competition will come down to someone making an unexpected run the night of the show.

"I think this year, it's extremely close. You could think you have your top 15, but there's some people that will shine in different areas that will definitely surprise you," the 20-year-old said. "With nerves and everything in dresses — just little different factors included — I don't think you can know until the final day."

Hoyos said late nights, pageant officials and issues back home can take their toll on competitors, so the girls have to lean on one another to make it through the one-of-a-kind experience.

Miss Haiti Sarodj Bertin said she thinks the competition is tough because the field is made up of women who have already proven themselves.

"It's a very hard competition. All the girls are so different, but all of them shine in their way," said Bertin, 23. "I believe that if they're already here in Las Vegas, it's because they have what they need to be a queen."

## **Defense questions** witness in Anna Nicole case

LOS ANGELES (AP)—A hospital psychiatrist who has been critical of Anna Nicole Smith's doctor for overmedicating the model was accused Monday by a defense attorney of weaning Smith from addictive drugs too quickly and ignoring the celebrity model when she went into distress.

The cross-examination of Dr. Nathalie Maullin by attorney Steve Sadow, who represents Smith's lawyer-boyfriend Howard K. Stern, was the first volley in a battle of doctors expected to dominate the drug conspiracy case.

Maullin testified she treated Smith at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center when she came in pregnant and in withdrawal from the painkiller Methadone and the anti-anxiety drug Xanax.

Maullin said she concluded that Smith's doctor, co-defendant Sandeep Kapoor, had prescribed drugs that amounted to "overkill" for Smith's condition.

On cross-examination. Sadow elicited testimony from Maullin that she diagnosed Smith in 45 minutes as having a borderline personality disorder and ordered her weaned off Xanax.

Testimony also indicated Maullin was slow to respond when she began receiving calls from the hospital reporting Smith had hallucinations, couldn't sleep, was agitated and had fallen out of bed, suffering bruises.

"She was safe. She was in a hospital. Nothing bad was going to happen to her," Maullin said.

A nurse's notes from the period showed that Smith was complaining of pain all over her body, Maullin acknowledged. But she said she was never told that.

Maullin said when she did arrive at the hospital, she encountered Stern who had been at Smith's side throughout and was concerned about her well-being.

## Model's lawsuit against talent agency dismissed

LOS ANGELES (AP)—A former a practice called "hip pocketing," which messages seeking comment Monday. beauty queen has dropped a lawsuit that accused a top talent agency and one of its agents of unwanted sexual advances, court records show.

An agreement to dismiss the case was filed Monday in federal court in Los Angeles.

Former Miss British Columbia Claire Robinson sued International Creative Management in May 2009, claiming she was exploited by an agent and his friend.

The lawsuit initially sought class-action status and sought a judge's ruling to end was described in the case as involving an agent claiming to represent a person but never actually taking them on as a client. The suit claimed ICM engaged in the practice and that led to the sexual exploitation of Robinson and others who were sent on fake auditions.

ICM denied wrongdoing after the case was filed. Attorneys for ICMwhich represents top Hollywood talent such as Bevonce Knowles and Chris Rock—and other defendants did not immediately return phone after the case was filed.

Robinson's attorney, Perry Wander,

declined comment. The filings did not state whether a settlement was reached and did not provide further details.

The case sought millions of dollars from ICM and agent Jack Gilardi, who has represented stars such as James Caan, Charlton Heston and Burt Reynolds. One of Gilardi's friends, John Rockwell, was accused in the complaint of threatening and raping Robinson, a claim that Rockwell's attorney called "absolutely false"

## Met Opera breaks box office record, topping \$2.6M

NEW YORK (AP)—The Metropolitan Opera has set a record for its box office opening day, selling more than \$2.6 million worth of single tickets for the new season.

The total, reflecting the sale of more than 24,000 tickets on Sunday, compares to \$2.5 million in sales on last year's opening day. Sales included inperson purchases, plus those made by telephone and online.

The company's 33-week season starts Sept. 27 with a new production of Richard Wagner's "Das Rheingold" directed by Robert Lepage.

It's part of the Met's first new version in more than two decades of the German composer's four-part epic,

"Der Ring des Nibelungen." And Met General Manager Peter Gelb was banking on a theatrical success by hiring the Canadian director whose dazzling audio-visual techniques have been called "visionary" by hip spectators.

Celebrating the 40th anniversary of his Met debut, James Levine will conduct "Das Rheingold" six times through April, starring bass-baritone Bryn Terfel and mezzo-soprano Stephanie Blythe.

The second part of the Ring, "Die Walkuere," premieres April 22, with Terfel, soprano Deborah Voigt and tenor Jonas Kaufmann. The full cycle is planned for the spring of 2012.

The 2010-11 season also features six

other new productions, including Modest Mussorgsky's "Boris Godunov"; Giuseppe Verdi's "Don Carlo" and his "La Traviata"; John Adams' "Nixon in China": and Gioachino Rossini's "Le Comte Ory."

News of the record-setting ticket sales is especially welcome at the Met after several years of financial struggles exacerbated by the recession.

Sales were strong for the whole season despite the Met's first across-theboard ticket price increase in five years. Individual tickets went up an average of 11 percent, with seats for regular single performances ranging from \$25 to \$420, up from a range of \$20 to \$375 last season.

### German pop singer tried over HIV allegation

DARMSTADT, Germany (AP)—A German singer facing accusations that she infected a man with the virus that causes AIDS acknowledged in court Monday that she had unprotected sex despite knowing she was HIV-positive.

Nadja Benaissa, 28, a member of German girl band No Angels, is charged with grievous bodily harm for allegedly infecting a partner with the virus in 2004 and also faces charges of attempted bodily harm for having unprotected sex with two other men.

"I am sorry from my heart," she said in a statement read by her lawyer to the Darmstadt administrative court. "No way did I want my partner to be infected."

The man who claims Benaissa infected him says they had a three-month relationship at the beginning of 2004, and that he got tested after Benaissa's aunt asked him in 2007 whether he was aware that the singer was HIVpositive.

In her statement, Benaissa told the court she became addicted to crack cocaine at 14 and that during her pregnancy at 16, she found out that she was HIV positive, the news agency ddp reported.

After winning a TV talent show, "Popstars," in 2000, she joined No Angels with four other young women and hid her illness from everyone for fear it



Nadja Benaissa, singer of German girl band "No Angels", sits in a courtroom in Darmstadt, Germany, Monday Aug. 16, 2010.

would damage her career.

Of that time, the singer said in her statement, "I grew apart from everyone, even myself."

No Angels sold more than 5 million albums before breaking up in 2003.

Along with three other members from the original band, Benaissa helped reform the group in 2007. They performed to disastrous results in the 2008 Eurovision song contest, coming in 23rd out of 25 contestants.

## Mel Gibson uninjured in single-car Malibu crash

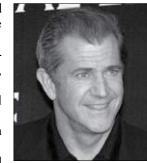
LOS ANGELES (AP)—Mel Gibson was uninjured after crashing his sports car into a Malibu hillside, the California Highway Patrol said.

Gibson's 2008 Maserati careened off southbound Malibu Canyon Road on Sunday evening, the agency said.

Gibson's spokesman Alan Nierob said in an e-mail the actor-director was doing fine.

The 54-year-old Academy Award winner was alone in the car. Authorities do not suspect alcohol was involved. Gibson cooperated with the agency and was picked

up from the scene by a friend. The CHP did not re-



Gibson

lease any further details, and it was unclear how much damage Gibson's car sustained. It's been a rough couple of months for Gibson, who is locked in a bitter custody dispute over his infant daughter with Russian singer Oksana Grigorieva. He also remained under investigation by the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department for an alleged assault on Grigorieva earlier this year, although he has not been arrested and no charges have been filed.

Grigorieva, 40, is also under investigation after Gibson accused her of attempting to extort him. She has denied the allegation.

## Patricia Arquette files for divorce in Los Angeles

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Court moved to dismiss her previous records show Patricia Arquette has filed for divorce from fellow actor Thomas Jane in Los Angeles.

The "Medium" actress cited irreconcilable differences as the reason for the breakup in a divorce petition filed Friday.

It's the second time Arquette has sought to end her marriage with Jane, who now stars in the HBO series "Hung." Arquette filing in July 2009.

Arquette, an Emmy Awardwinner, is seeking legal and physical custody of the couple's 7-year-old daughter.

Messages for Arquette's manager and Jane's publicist were not immediately returned Monday.

The couple were married in May 2006. Court filings did not indicate when they separated.

### Michael Douglas has tumor

NEW YORK (AP)—Michael Douglas has a tumor in his throat and will undergo radiation and chemotherapy.

The Academy Award-winning actor's treatment is scheduled to last eight weeks.

The 65-year-old Douglas says he expects to make a full recovery. He told People magazine in a statement Monday

he's "very optimistic." His publicist's assistant, Eli Barach, confirmed his condition to The Associated Press.

The actor is outside the United States, publicist Allen Burry said Monday, declining to give his location or where he would be treated.

Douglas and his wife, Catherine Zeta-Jones, purchased a house on the island of Bermuda nearly a decade ago, and Zeta-Jones said they planned to raise their

two children there. Douglas won an Oscar for "Wall Street" and appears this fall in the sequel, "Wall Street: Money Never Sleeps."





### 'I'M GOING TO BE A DAD-TWICE'

In this photo provided by Disneyland, Neil Patrick Harris and his partner, David Burtka, pose at Paradise Pier in Disney California Adventure in Anaheim, Calif., on Saturday, Aug. 14, 2010. The two will become parents of twins this fall. A representative for Harris confirmed in an e-mail Monday that Harris made the announcement in a posting on Twitter. The 37-year-old actor says he and Burtka are "super excited/ nervous/thrilled." He did not say whether they were adopting or using a surrogate. Harris posted the message on Saturday. He stars in the CBS sitcom "How I Met Your Mother."



In this Sept. 18, 2005, file photo, Patricia Arquette, right, poses with Thomas Jane at the 57th Annual Primetime Emmy Awards, in

## James Cameron to celebrate his bd'ay underwater

SANTA MONICA, California (AP) — James Cameron is going from outer space to under water.

The writer and director of "Avatar" says he'll celebrate his 56th birthday Monday deep beneath Russia's Lake Baikal. Cameron will be in a submersible about 5,200 feet (1,600 meters) from the surface of the world's oldest and deepest freshwater — "unless it's bad weather, in which case I'll be

## **LONDON** (AP) — Clothing,

mementoes and handwritten lyrics belonging to Jimi Hendrix are going on display at his former London home to mark the 40th anniversary of his death.

The guitarist lived during the late 1960s in an apartment in the Mayfair area of London. He died in the city on Sept. 18,

Composer George Frideric Handel lived next door in the getting drunk with the Russian crew in the port."

A longtime ocean enthusiast, Cameron has other underwater projects in the works. He says he is building a submarine in Australia that will take him 36,000 feet (11,000 meters) underwater. He is also developing an upgraded 3-D underwater camera and has plans for an underwater feature film that he said he might make before taking on an "Avatar" sequel.

### Hendrix items on show in his former London home

18th century, and Hendrix's former home is now part of the Handel House Museum.

The museum is holding an exhibition devoted to Hendrix's London years. It gave photographers a preview Monday.

The exhibition opens Aug. 25 and runs to Nov. 7. For 12 days in September visitors will also be able to tour the rooms where Hendrix lived, which are not usually open to the public.

## Adult daughter's bedroom antics displease her mom

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN

**DEAR ABBY:** My adult daughter, "Suzie," spent the weekend at our home, bringing along her boyfriend of six months. This was "Liam's"

I allowed them to share Suzie's old bedroom, which we have converted into a family office. We keep a large futon in there for my daughter when she comes to visit. I didn't make a big deal out of where Liam



and Suzie should sleep because I didn't want to embarrass them, and I was sure there would be no "hanky-panky" because our bedroom is right across the hall.

Well, I was wrong. In the middle of the night I was awakened by Suzie's squeals and moans. Fortunately, my husband is a sound sleeper. The next morning, while my husband was out on his daily run, I let the kids have it—to the point of slapping Liam around a little. I told Suzie her actions were disrespectful and I was highly disappointed in her.

Suzie and I are no longer speaking and I am miserable. Do you think I overreacted? Did I silently give permission for such behavior by allowing them to share the same futon? And did Liam really think it would be OK to have sex in my home?

### MISERABLE MOM IN WISCONSIN

DEAR MISERABLE MOM: I will respond to your questions in reverse order. The answers are yes, yes and yes. And all of you owe each other an apology.

DEAR ABBY: "Dave" is 49, well-educated, gainfully employed and still lives with his parents. He has never been married and has no children. His dating history is "sketchy"—he claims never to have had a serious relationship with a woman. When I asked him why he has never lived on his own, he told me he feels comfortable living with his parents.

Dave and I have enjoyed a strictly platonic relationship for nearly a year. He recently told me he's in love with me and wants us to be exclusive, with marriage as the ultimate outcome. I have been divorced for 20 years. My children are independent, thriving adults. Marrying again is not a priority in my life.

Dave is kind, sensitive and thoughtful. I care for him deeply, yet I am skeptical about becoming seriously involved with a man who seems to be "hiding" something. Am I being overly critical, or is there something wrong with this picture?

JADED IN JERSEY

DEAR JADED: The situation you have described is unusual, but it doesn't necessarily indicate that Dave is "hiding" anything. He could be a simple man who enjoys the living arrangement he has with his folks—and the lowest sex drive in New Jersey. Before making any hard and fast decisions, you and Dave need to have some frank, serious and ongoing conversations. You also need to determine how his parents will feel about "losing" their son after 49 years of togetherness.

**DEAR ABBY:** I have three daughters who seem to be incapable of functioning as adults. None of them is employed or in school. My oldest is a single parent of two kids she doesn't want.

I love my grandkids and I know I should take them, but I raised my daughters and feel I'm too old to be Dad to toddlers again. Am I being selfish?

DAD OF THREE DAUGHTERS IN NEBRASKA

DEAR DAD: No, you are being realistic.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

For an excellent guide to becoming a better conversationalist and a more sociable person, order "How to Be Popular." Send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$6 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby - Popularity Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in

## **Pastimes**

### Calvin and Hobbes

### By Bill Waterson

### **Garfield**®

### By Jim Davis















By Glenn McCoy

### Adam@home









### The Duplex





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For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touchtone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NÝC.

53 Peculiar

**CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY:** Andy Samberg, 32; Edward Norton, 41; Denis Leary, 53; Robert Redford, 74

Happy Birthday: Pick up the knowledge or experience required to reach your goals. Love and romance are highlighted, so take the time to nurture and build any relationship important to you. If someone wants more than what you have to offer, you are probably spending time with the wrong person. Your numbers are 5, 12, 18, 25, 29, 36, 47

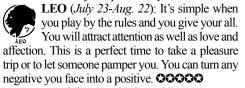
ARIES (March 21-April 19): Impulsive decisions based on emotions will not bode well. You have to give yourself a chance to digest what's going on around you. There is no reason to feel pressured. The worst that can happen is that you have to wait for another opportunity. OOOOO

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Just because someone asks you to do something doesn't mean you have to or should. Question whether it is an imposition and will compromise fulfilling your responsibilities. Apply a bit of pressure if you are having trouble getting your

way. 🛇 🔾 🔾 GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Make time for precious moments with children, your lover or a close friend. You must take care of your own needs. Socializing will bring you in contact with someone who can make your life much easier. Be proactive.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Avoid anyone looking for a fight. Make sure you do what's required of you. Allowing someone to in-

volve you in something you aren't familiar with will cause anxiety. Prepare to say no. OOO



VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Bypass any emotional madness going on around you. Concentrate on what will get you ahead, not what will hold you back. Timing is everything and, if you let your intuition lead you, it will not let you down. 👀

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Your discipline and intelligence, coupled with an extra strong intuition, will help you find your way to the top. Don't let emotions overwhelm you. Focus on getting the job done. ••••

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): You'll be asked to help someone you've assisted in the past. If you don't get any sort of payback, you may want to reconsider what you do for this person in the future. Don't be fooled by a sob story. 🛇 😂 🔾

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): You may have all the angles covered but watch out for the one person who is watching your every move. Cover every aspect of what needs to be done. Leave no room for mistakes. Be prepared for last-minute changes.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Avoid anyone with the potential or a reason to twist your words. An emotional matter EUGENIA

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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will arise around a money deal or debt. Find a way to make it possible for everyone to feel comfortable with the decision. AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): A rela-

tionship that allows you to work together to obtain personal, financial and emotional growth is apparent. Don't shy away from someone who wants to spend more time with you. Equality can be achieved if you work alongside someone with similar goals.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Your unpredictable ways will unnerve some people and attract others. A partnership may start on shaky ground but, once you iron out the wrinkles, you will realize how much you complement one another. It's time to put your ideas and talent on the line. ••

Birthday Baby: You are engaging and eager to please. You are a charmer and a perfectionist and you adapt well to change.

Eugenia's Web sites: eugenialast.com for confidential consultations, myspace.com/eugenialast for Eugenia's blog, astroadvice.com for fun

### Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

8/18

		3	9			6	1
	7				9		
9				1			
3				7			
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Difficulty Level ★★★

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

	Saturday's SUDOKU Answer										
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5	4	6	3	8	2	1	9	7		
Difficul	lty Lev	d ★★						8/17		

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### WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters spell

the V	the Wonderword.													
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Adventures, Battle, Business, Cable, Cars, Celebrities, Conspira cies, Country, Crisis, Discovery, Event, Facts, Fashion, Feel, Feminism, Gangs, Guest, Heists, Interests, Land, Learn, Movements, Noted, Past, Places, Plots, Politics, Rescue, Revolution, Secrets, Ships, Speeches, State, Story, Struggle, Voyages, Wars, Weapons, World, Writer, Year

esterday's Answer: Metabolism

ALE: The topics of "Wonderword for Kids" appeal to younger fans but the puzzle-difficulty matches what you've come to expect from orderword. For a limited time, the book is on sale for just \$4 each IU.S. funds only, payable to Universal Ucisic. Include \$3 postage for the fin order order \$1 and for expect additionations. Sand for Vonderword, \$130 Walant St. Kanssa (kgr, Mp. 6.4166 or call forlifee; 1-6-842-4800.

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### FOR RENT - RESIDENTIAL

DanDan - American style home 2 storey concrete house-walled/gated, 5bedrooms, 3baths, unfurnished, Rooftop patio and BBQ, beautiful Mountain/ Ocean view, 24 hr. water, 322-0268

Fina Sisu Apt., 2-BR, 1-BTH, FF, AC, BU Genset/ 24-hr water, security, laundry room, free Wi-Fi & ample parking. Right behind NMC campus. MIHA applicants accepted. Special rates for NMC faculty/ students. Call 235-6527/8 or 285-1317 for info.

Ocean View Terraces. Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apts w/private balcony & beautiful view. Rooms w/ A/C & Fully Furnished. Back-up Generator. Free Wi-Fi. Laundry Area. Nightime security. 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

Sunset View Terraces. Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apts w/private balcony & beautiful view. Rooms w/ A/C & Fully Furnished. Back-up Generator. Free Wi-Fi. Laundry Area. Nightime security. 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

### **Looking for** CAUCASIAN EXTRA MODEL **FOR TV-COMMERCIAL** MALE/FEMALE

20 – 60 years old Please call: 323-2101/888-3245 or email goodday\_saipan@yahoo.com



## **QQ RENT A CAR** without Insurance

Call: 233-9889, 483-8866 or 233-8866 \$100 Security Deposit Required Please visit QQ Store Garapan (2<sup>nd</sup> Road behind Fire Station

### House For Rent at Koblerville

Concrete House 4-Bedroom, 2-Bath, with Furnish, and Carport, 24hr water, with Free Trash Collection, also MIHA applicant are accepted. For Inquiry call Si Frank at 483-7158.

WHATZIT Solution: The morning after the night before

### DILGENGE IAWN CARE SERVICES

We offer Bush Cutting, Land Cleaning and other services 500sqm - \$30.00 (Negotiable)

**Call Islam at 287-0319** 

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233-5641

## TBK AUTO CARES Wanted!

- Automotive Mechanic /Electrician
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**Commonwealth Utilities Corporation** 

## **Computer Repair** Only \$25 WE ALSO FIX LAPTOP & USED PARTS 233-5641 Open: 7 Days a Week

## 2-Waiter

Must be U.S. Citizen at least 21 yrs old; High School graduate with 2 yrs experience; walk-in applicants only.

No phone calls. Deadline Aug 21, 2010 Country House Restaurant

### **CLASSIFIEDS RATES AND POLICIES**

Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 6-day run on both print and online edition, for as low as \$27 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS		СОМВО
	(PRINT)	(PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	\$15	\$27
• 5-Liner	\$24	\$39
<ul> <li>3-Liner with picture</li> </ul>	\$24	\$42
<ul> <li>5-Liner with picture</li> </ul>	\$36	\$57

### ADVERTISING DEADLINE

### **Classified Ads**

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

Saturday Issue:

### **CANCELLATION**

### **Classified Ads**

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day

### **REFUNDS**

No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

necessary.

### **ADVERTISING POLICY**

All advertising in the Saipan Tribune are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.



**CLASSIFIED LINER ADS** 

3-Liner 5-Liner 3-Liner with picture 5-Liner with picture	(PRINT) \$15 \$24 \$24 \$36	(PRINT AND ONLINE) \$27 \$39 \$42 \$57

■ All ads placed Friday before 12 noon will come out Saturday issue and anything placed thereafter will be published on Monday issue.

prior to date of publication.

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met.

### **CHECK YOUR ADS**

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when

Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.



JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT Opening Date: Thursday, July 20, 2010 Closing Date: Thursday, August 19, 2010

JVA NU.	Position little	Positions	~Salary	Contract	Location
10-038	Internal Auditor	1	\$30,000 to \$40,000 un-graded; un-classified	Two-year	Chief Financial Officer Division, Saipan
Opening	Date: Tuesday, August 17, 2	2010	Closing Dat	te: Wednesc	lay, September 2, 2010
JVA NO.	Position Title	Positions	*Salary	Contract	Location
10-039	Trades Technician (Mechanic)	10	\$17,282.00	Two-year	Power Generation, Saipan
10-040	Trades Technician (Machinist)	1	\$17,282.00	Two-year	Power Generation, Saipan
10-041	Trades Technician (Welder)	1	\$17,282.00	Two-year	Power Generation, Saipan
10-042	Trades Technician (Electrician)	1	\$17,282.00	Two-year	Power Generation, Saipan
10-043	Trades Technician (Electrician)	1	\$17,282.00	Two-year	Power Plant, Rota
10-044	Accounting Assistant (Cashier)	1	\$12,263.00	Two-year	Accounting, Rota
10-045	Administrative Support Technic	ian 1	\$13,625.00	Two-year	Administration, Rota

\*For more information about the position (s) being advertised; requirements, equivalency policy, and salary; please contact or stop by the human resource office on the third floor of the Joeten Dandan Building.

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER AND EMPLOYER Fax (670) 235-5131 P.O. Box 501220, Saipan MP 96950-1220 U.S.A.. Tel. Nos. (670) 235-7025 to 32



### EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

**Job Title: Receptionist / Administrative Assistant** Closing Date: August 27, 2010

Provide administrative support to a department and/ or Manager. Duties include general clerical, receptionist and project-based work. Project a professional company image through in-person and phone interaction.

### PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITIES

- Answer telephones and transfer to appropriate staff member.
- Meet and greet clients and visitors. Create and modify documents using Microsoft Office.
- Perform general derical duties to include but not limited to: photocopying, faxing, mailing, and filing
- Maintain hard copy and electronic filing system. Sign for and distribute UPS/Fed Ex/Airborne packages Setup and coordinate meetings and conferences.
- Support staff in assigned project based work.
- 10. Other duties as assigned.

### KNOWLEDGE AND SKILL REQUIREMENTS

- Basic reading, writing, and arithmetic skills required. This is normally acquired through a high school diploma or equivalent.
- $Knowledge\ of\ Microsoft\ Office\ (including,\ but\ not\ limited\ to\ Word,\ Excel,\ and\ PowerPoint)\ and$ professional telephone protocol. Duties require proficient communication skills and the ability to type 50 wpm. This is normally acquired through one to three years of clerical experience
- A valid Driver's License is required.

You will be asked to provide a copy of your valid driver's license, US Passport, Police Clearance and Court Clearance, and drug screening prior to employment with ASCTC.

NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE. INTERESTED INDIVIDUALS MAY STOP BY AT OUR OFFICE LOCATED ON THE 2ND FLOOR COARLOG MIDDLE ROAD GUALO RALTO FILL OUT AN APPLICATION

MARK A. SCOGGINS Law Office of F. Matthew Smith, LLC 2nd Floor, MC Building, Chalan Monsignor Guerrero San Jose Village P.O. Box S01127 Saipan, MP 96950 Telephone No.: (670) 234-7455/234-7427 Facsimile No.: (670) 234-7256

Attorney for Plaintiff. IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE

COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

NIPPON GENERAL TRADING CORPORATION, Plaintiff.

Civil Action No. 09-0205 SUMMONS

KOICHI TABEI and EMMA GUILLERMA TABEI,

TO THE ABOVE NAMED DEFENDANTS:
KOICHI TABEI and EMMA GUILLERMA TABEI

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED to file any copy of which is given to you herewith, within twenty (20) days after service of the Summons upon you, and to deliver or mail a copy of your answer to the Law Office of F. Matthew Smith LLC, attorney for Plaintiff, whose address is Post Office Box 501127, Saipan, MP 96950, as soon as practicable after filing your answer or sending it to the Clerk of Courts for filing.

Your answer should be in writing and filed with the Clerk of this Court at the Guma Hustisia Complex, Susupe, Saipan, MP 96950. It may be prepared for you by your counsel and sent to the Clerk of this Court by messenger or mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until

If you fail to file an answer in accordance with this Summons, judgment by default may be taken against you for the relief demanded in the

/s/ Deputy Clerk of Court Commonwealth Superior Court Dated this 22nd day of May, 2009.

By order of the above Court:

**Robert Tenorio Torres** Attorney at Law

Plata Drive, Whispering Palms (Chalan Kiya) P.O. Box 503758 Saipan, MP 96950 Tel: (670) 234-7859 Fax. (670) 234-5749

Attorney for MPLT

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT **FOR THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS** 

MARIANAS PUBLIC	Civil Action
LAND TRUST,	No. 06-0324-C\
,	Ś
Plaintiff,	SECOND
	NOTICE OF
VS.	HEARING ON
	PLAINTIFF'S
FRANCISCO A. AGUON	MOTION FOR
and ROSALIA M. AGUON,	SUMMARY
	JUDGMENT
Defendants.	

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that on the 31st day of August, 2010 at 9:00am, the Court will hear the above-entitled Marianas Public Land Trust's ("MPLT") Motion for Summary Judgment. You may file any brief in response pursuant to the Commonwealth Rules of Civil Procedure and serve MPLT counsel with copies thereof.

Respectfully submitted this 3rd day of August, 2010.

/s/ DEPUTY CLERK OF COURT

## **US** expects tough road en route to worlds in Turkey



NEW YORK (AP)—LeBron James and his teammates boasted of bringing an "us

against the world" mentality to the Olympics two years ago.

It wasn't necessary.

Where they were going, people cheered U.S. players.

That was in China, playing before fans who adored the NBA superstars that led the Americans to the gold medal. The crowds were just as accommodating in 2006 in Japan.

"In Asia, those two summers, the world championships and the Olympics, we were greeted warmly," U.S. coach Mike Krzyzewski said. "There wasn't any hostility. Outside of the Chinese teams, we were probably the most favored team."

The lesser-known American players who make up the roster for this year's world championships know things will be a lot harder. So the boos might be coming back—and maybe the losses, too.

"It's going to be different," guard Derrick Rose said. "They're calling us the 'B team,' so we know that there's going to be a lot of stuff going on. But we've got to withstand it and go out there and play anyway.'

The Americans left Monday for Madrid, a day after beating France 86-55 in their lone home exhibition game. They will play three quality opponents before they arrive in Turkey for the world championships that begin Aug. 28.

Stephen Curry played on the under-19 U.S. team that won a silver medal in Serbia in 2007, making him one of the few on this roster with experience playing in front of "hostile" European crowds.

"They were pretty much 100 percent against us every time we played," he said. "That was a different experience



France guard Nicholas Batum, right, slaps the ball from United States forward Kevin Love during the fourth quarter of an exhibition basketball game Sunday, Aug. 15, 2010 at Madison Square Garden in New York.

going over there."

The tour wraps up against Greece in Athens, where there was little love for the U.S. players during the 2004 Olympics. Lamar Odom, who has a bronze medal from those games, argues that the venom directed toward the Americans was due to "different times" in the world. Some of the obstacles of playing in Europe remain for his much-younger teammates.

"That's something that we have to be accustomed to. A lot of these guys that are superstars that are used to getting calls, it won't be like that when we get over there," Odom said. "It'll be a good experience. They'll have to grow up really fast."

The Americans will face Lithuania and Spain in Madrid, the latter a rematch of the championship game in Beijing. None of the gold medalists is playing this summer, which will hurt the U.S. team as much in the stands as

Kobe Bryant is the league's most popular player around the world, with players such as James, Dwyane Wade and Dwight Howard not far behind. Even in a road game, they would have heard some cheers.

"Remember the '92 Dream Team, they were treated pretty well in Spain. I think Kobe and LeBron and Dwyane Wade, those guys, they get treated pretty well wherever they go," said assistant Mike D'Antoni, who's skipping the trip to rest an ailing back before the NBA season. "Now you send some guys without that status, although they're very good players, might be a little bit more hostile."

USA Basketball chairman Jerry Colangelo agreed to the beefed-up exhibition schedule without regard to whether he'd have his superstars.

"When the possibility of games came up, in the past we might have said we'd rather not play against one team or another team until tournament time," he said. "This time around, I said let's play, let's play them, because all it can do is help us get ready."

Though Pau Gasol is resting this summer, Spain returns many other players from its 2006 world championship team. Greece, which beat the Americans in the semifinals of that tournament, also is a veteran group.

That raises the possibility the Americans could have at least one loss by the time they reach Istanbul. Along the way, they'll be learning about more than foreign players.

"The people officiating the game can sometimes get nervous, get into what the crowd is doing because they're human beings," Krzyzewski said. "How do you adjust to that?"

Krzyzewski always plays a difficult nonconference schedule at Duke. He thinks the tour would have benefited the Americans no matter who was suiting up, but particularly with the roster in place.

"You need to find even more things with a younger group," he said. "That doesn't mean you find out negative. You could find out 'Holy mackerel, these guys love it.' I'm really looking for that."

MIAMI (AP)—Udonis Haslem of the Miami Heat released a statement Monday night expressing confidence that he'll be vindicated, one day after he was charged with

possession of marijuana following a traffic stop.

"I am confident that once the judicial process runs its course, I will be cleared," Haslem said.

A passenger in Haslem's 2008 Mercedes sedan told the Florida Highway Patrol that marijuana found in the car Sunday afternoon after the Heat forward was pulled over for speeding on a South Florida highway was his and Haslem's attorney insisted that's enough reason for the third-degree felony charge to be dropped.

Eric Schwartzreich, Haslem's attorney, said the State Attorney's Office is reviewing the arrest paperwork, a process that should be completed in the coming days. Haslem is accused of possessing more than 20 grams of marijuana, a third-degree felony, along with four misdemeanor counts of having drug paraphernalia.

"He's a little rattled," Schwartzreich said. "He's upset. He doesn't know how he can be charged with this."

A hearing in Haslem's case has been scheduled for Sept. 14 in Miami-Dade County court.

Haslem was freed from custody late Sunday night, about seven hours

## Haslem says he's 'confident' he'll be cleared

after a trooper pulled him over for driving 78 mph in a 60 mph zone on the Gratigny Parkway. Haslem's car was searched multiple times and marijuana was eventually found in two places, first in a black case under the driver's seat, then later in a blue nylon bag.

Antwain Fleming, Haslem's passenger, told troopers that all the marijuana in the car belonged to him.

Both were transported into police custody. Court records show Fleming faces a charge of possessing less than 20 grams of marijuana, a first-degree misdemeanor, along

with another misdemeanor charge related to paraphernalia.

'We are confident Udonis Haslem will be vindicated," Schwartzreich said. "We have a situation where the passenger admits the marijuana was his and Mr. Haslem tells police nothing was in the vehicle.

## NY prosecutors: Pacers pick shoved woman on stairs

ers draft pick Lance Stephenson, after pushing his girlfriend down a pushing her down the stairs. flight of stairs, grabbed her and hit her head on the bottom step, prosecutors said Monday.

A judge released Stephenson, 19, without bail late Sunday night after his arrest on assault, menacing and harassment charges. Prosecutors had asked for \$7,500 bail.

In a lengthy statement issued Monday, Pacers president Larry Bird called Stephenson's arrest "very disappointing to the Pacers franchise and to me personally." A defense attorney said Stephenson didn't harm his girlfriend.

Authorities say the confrontation occurred around 5 a.m. Sunday when the woman, Jasmine Williams, was returning home to her apartment building with two friends. Witnesses said

NEW YORK (AP)—Indiana Pac- Stephenson was waiting for her and yelled, "Are you kidding me?" before

A criminal complaint provided Monday by the Brooklyn district attorney's office said that as Williams lay at the bottom of the stairs, Stephenson picked up her head and slammed it on the bottom step.

When police arrived, Stephenson told them the woman had fallen down the stairs, prosecutors said. The complaint said Williams suffered head and back wounds and possible damage to her neck.

Stephenson's New York-based attorney, Alberto Ebanks, said Monday his client "did not maliciously, intentionally or in any other way cause harm to Jasmine Williams."

Ebanks, calling the charges against his client "very serious," added: "Everyone, especially Lance, regrets that

this incident occurred. We look forward to addressing these charges in the appropriate venues."

Stephenson was one of the nation's top high school prospects. He played one season at Cincinnati before applying for early entry to the NBA draft.

Bird said the organization was still waiting to hear all the facts.

Still, Stephenson "should not have put himself in the position he was in early Sunday morning," the former Boston Celtics great added. "We have consistently emphasized to our players the importance of not putting themselves in situations where bad things can happen."

Depending on the investigation's outcome, Bird said, "we will deal appropriately with Lance so that he, the team and the entire Pacers community understands that this message cannot be ignored."

"I think the police report speaks for itself," Schwartzreich added. "I am hopeful that Udonis Haslem will not be charged."

Haslem's car, worth more than \$100,000, may face forfeiture, according to court records. The speeding ticket brings a \$269 fine, and FHP spokesman Sgt. Mark Wysocky said Haslem was also cited for having illegal window tint.

"We are aware of the incident involving Udonis Haslem yesterday afternoon, and while we fully support our players, since this is a pending legal matter we will have no further comment at this time," Heat president Pat Riley said in a statement Monday evening.

Haslem has spent all seven of his NBA seasons with the Heat, and the South Florida native signed a new five-year contract to stay with the team last month.

"He is our anchor, he is a true warrior and a great professional," Riley said in July, after Haslem announced he would forgo higherpaying offers elsewhere to stay in Miami and continue playing alongside Dwyane Wade, plus team up with marquee acquisitions LeBron James and Chris Bosh.

During his NBA career, Haslem has averaged 10.0 points and 8.1 rebounds for Miami, helping the Heat win the 2006 NBA championship.

## Blue Jays' Marcum throws one-hitter against A's

OAKLAND, California (AP)—Shaun Marcum pitched a one-hitter, allowing only a home run to Conor Jackson leading off the seventh inning, while Jose Bautista hit his majors-best 37th home run to lift the Toronto Blue Jays to a 3-1 win over Oakland Athletics on Monday night.

The A's were held hitless late for the second straight day. Minnesota's Kevin Slowey didn't allow a hit through seven innings Sunday before being pulled. Oakland got its first hit with one out in the eighth against Jon Rauch.

Marcum (11-6) missed most of last season after undergoing surgery on Sept. 30, 2008. He faced only two batters over the minimum before Jackson's home run, then finished for his first career complete game.

### Rays 6, Rangers 4

At St. Petersburg, Carlos Pena hit a tiebreaking single during a four-run eighth inning as Tampa Bay rallied to beat Texas and move into a share of first-place with the Yankees in the AL East.

Lee outlasted David Price in a marquee matchup of All-Star aces and was given a late lead when Texas scored twice in the top of the eighth to go up 4-2. But Carl Crawford hit a run-scoring grounder and Evan Longoria tied it with a single before Pena, just off the disabled list, made it 5-4.

Ben Zobrist added an RBI single that chased Lee (10-6). The left-hander allowed six runs, nine hits and one walk while striking out 10 over 7 2-3 innings. He has lost all three of his starts against Tampa Bay this season.

Price got a no-decision in his bid to become the AL's first 16-game winner, giving up two runs and five hits in sixplus innings. The hard-throwing lefty struck out eight and walked five.

Lance Cormier (4-3) got the final out in the eighth before Rafael Soriano pitched the ninth for his 34th save.

### Tigers 3, Yankees 1

At New York, Detroit's Max Scherzer pitched two-hit ball for six shutout innings and shaky closer Jose Valverde got Derek Jeter to ground into a game-ending double play with the bases loaded.

The Tigers took a 3-0 lead into the ninth. The Yankees were close to being shut out in consecutive games for the first time since 1999.

Valverde held on for his 23rd consecutive save.

The highest-scoring team in the majors managed only six hits overall against Scherzer (8-9) and three relievers.

Not since May 1999, when the Anaheim Angels stopped them, have the Yankees been blanked in consecutive games.

Ryan Raburn hit a two-run homer in the second off Javier Vazquez (9-9). Miguel Cabrera hit his 28th home run in the ninth off Joba Chamberlain.

## Orioles 5, Mariners 4, 11 innings

At Baltimore, Nick Markakis led off the 11th inning with a double and scored on a two-out bunt by Adam Jones as the Orioles narrowly won.

Markakis doubled off Sean White (0-1) and advanced on a groundout. After another groundout against a drawn-in infield, Jones dropped a bunt down the third-base line that Jose Lopez failed to snare with his bare hand as Markakis sprinted home.



Matt Albers (5-3) worked the 11th to get the win.

It was the 21st time this season that Seattle lost on its opponent's final atbat, the 10th in walkoff fashion.

Rookie Adam Moore, who had his first four-hit game, Russell Branyan and Lopez homered for the Mariners. Moore came in batting .159 and had never had more than two hits in any of his previous 34 games in the majors.

### **Braves 4, Dodgers 3**

At Atlanta, Melky Cabrera's two-run single off Octavio Dotel with the bases loaded in the ninth inning capped a three-run rally that lifted Atlanta to vic-

tory over Los Angeles.

Dotel took over for Hong-Chih Kuo (3-2), who failed to protect a 3-1 lead. Kuo gave up two singles and a walk to load the bases.

Dotel walked pinch-hitter David Ross to force in a run. Cabrera then lined the game-winning single past shortstop Jamey Carroll.

The first-place Braves moved 2 1/2 games ahead of Philadelphia in the NL East.

Peter Moylan (4-2) pitched a perfect ninth for Atlanta.

Los Angeles starter Chad Billingsley gave up five hits and one run in seven innings. Atlanta's Tommy Hanson gave up five hits and a run in seven innings.

### Mets 3, Astros 1

At Houston, Carlos Beltran homered in the 4th and New York took the lead in the ninth inning on a wild pitch by Houston closer Matt Lindstrom.

Hisanori Takahashi worked a perfect ninth for his first save, filling in as closer on the day the Mets learned Francisco Rodriguez will miss the rest of the season. The four-time All-Star needs season-ending surgery on a torn thumb ligament in his pitching hand sustained during a fight with his girlfriend's father at Citi Field last week.

Lindstrom (2-4) allowed a single to

David Wright with one out in the ninth before a single by Beltran put runners at the corners. With Jeff Francoeur batting, Lindstrom's pitch in the dirt got away from rookie catcher Jason Castro, allowing Wright to score and give the Mets a 2-1 lead.

Francoeur added an insurance run with an RBI triple off the left-center fence.

### Pirates 7, Marlins 1

At Pittsburgh, James McDonald pitched seven sharp innings and Garrett Jones and Pedro Alvarez both drove in three runs as Pittsburgh ended a seven-game losing streak.

Making his third start with the Pirates since being acquired from the Dodgers in a deadline day trade, McDonald (2-2) pitched more than six innings for the first time in his career. He gave up a run and three hits, striking out six and walking two in improving to 2-1 with Pittsburgh.

Andrew McCutchen hit his 10th home run for Pittsburgh.

Dan Uggla went 3 for 4 with an RBI for the Marlins.

Chris Volstad (6-9) gave up five runs, five hits and two walks in five-plus innings.

### Padres 9, Cubs 5

At Chicago, Kevin Correia pitched six scoreless innings and hit an RBI double to lead San Diego over the Cubs.

Miguel Tejada was 4 for 5 with a double and two RBIs and Chris Denorfia added three hits for the NL West-leading Padres, who have won seven of eight. They moved four games ahead of second-place San Francisco.

Correia (10-7) allowed five hits and struck out five with one walk. After giving up four hits in the first two innings, he settled down to retire his last eight batters and became the fourth Padres starting pitcher to win at least 10 games this season.

## Rodriguez has torn thumb ligament, out for season

HOUSTON (AP)—Mets closer Francisco Rodriguez has a torn thumb ligament in his pitching hand sustained during a fight with his girlfriend's father at Citi Field and will need surgery that will sideline him for the rest of the season.

The Mets announced the injury before Monday night's game at the Houston Astros. They said the reliever didn't travel to Texas with the team.

"Obviously I'm disappointed, discouraged, frustrated," Mets manager Jerry Manuel said. "When you get this kind of news it's ... we've just been through a lot. We seem to continue to have difficulties keeping things from—having these type of injuries or these type of setbacks. Every year it seems like we get a little something here or there."

Manuel didn't dispute that Rodriguez will miss the rest of the season but said he didn't know how much longer beyond that it will take for the reliever to recover.

Rodriguez was suspended for two days without pay following the fight outside a family room at the ballpark last Wednesday.

The 28-year-old reliever was arrested and charged with third-degree assault and second-degree harassment.

He was released on his own recognizance and is due back in court Sept. 14.

When asked whether the injury occurred during the altercation, Manuel responded: "I was told during that time frame, yes." He said he does not think Rodriguez is contesting when it happened.

K-Rod was examined Monday at the Hospital for Special Surgery in New York, and the Mets said an MRI revealed the injury in his right hand.

"It's a very tough one," Manuel said. "It's not a baseball-related thing so that even probably adds to it a bit."

On the morning after the fight, New York put the four-time All-Star on the restricted list without pay for two days, costing him \$125,683 of his \$11.5 million salary.

He is owed \$11.5 million next year as part of a deal that includes a \$17.5 million team option for 2012 with a \$3.5 million buyout. The option would become guaranteed if he remains healthy and has 100 games finished this year and next, including 55 in 2011.

It's possible the Mets could try to withhold Rodriguez's salary during the time he's out, but based on past precedent it would be unlikely they could void the remainder of the contract.

Manuel said he is disappointed in the situation, but is not angry at Rodriguez.

"When you have some of the information, not all the information and you can pass judgment on the little information that you have," Manuel said. "You can see that - you don't condone it, but you can see why. I think that's what has to be taken into account with your frustrations and things that go on."

When asked to provide more details on the altercation, Manuel said he couldn't because of legal issues surrounding the issue.

"Once you have all that information, as men, I think we all would have reacted in some form," he said. "Maybe not in that form, but in some form and I think I have to kind of leave it at that."

When he returned from his suspension, Rodriguez apologized to teammates and fans, then gave up a leadoff double but didn't allow a run in a 4-0 loss to Philadelphia on Saturday.

Manuel said Rodriguez didn't indicate he was injured before pitching in Saturday's game, Manuel said he first learned of the injury on Sunday.

At 58-59, the Mets began Monday third in the NL East. They are 10 games behind division-leading At-

lanta. In Rodriguez's absence, they got complete-game shutouts from Johan Santana and R.A. Dickey.

Manuel said several relievers could be used in the closer role with Rodriguez out.

"(I'll) go matchups and see what fits best and who's pitching well," he said. "It's whoever I think is hot and I think it could be safe to say that you'll see (Hisanori) Takahashi getting a shot at closing games. Could be safe to say you'll see (Bobby) Parnell or (Manny) Acosta, maybe (Pedro) Feliciano, maybe (Elmer) Dessens. Bullpen by committee."

Third baseman David Wright said it's tough for the Mets to lose their closer, but that they have to pull together to make up for it.

"We've dug ourselves a hole and that doesn't help us, there's no question about that," he said. "But it gives other guys in here a chance to step up and do a job while he's out."

Rodriguez is accused of grabbing 53-year-old Carlos Pena, hauling him into a tunnel near the family lounge beneath Citi Field and hitting him in the face. Pena was taken to a hospital with a scrape and swelling above his eyebrow.

# Fighters Cloud, Abraham praise Pacquiao



Philippines— Manny Pacquiao has earned the re-

spect of fellow fighters because of his historic feat of winning 7 world titles in 7 different divisions. Moreover, his attitude proved to be respectable as well.

"Pacquiao is good. Pacquiao

MANILA, takes challenges and that's recently signed with legendary why I like him. He moves up and fights the best fighters in the division. I'm all for him. I'm with him," said Tavoris Cloud in an interview with The Mushroom Mag.

> Cloud is the current International Boxing Federation (IBF) light heavyweight champion.

The American fighter, who

promoter Don King, also commented on the much-requested fight between Pacquiao and Floyd Mayweather, Jr.

"Hey, if it can be done, Don is the one to do it," Cloud said of his promoter. "If the rest fail, Don may be the man to do it. He put on the 'Rumble in the Jungle' and he put on some of the biggest fights in boxing history so I wouldn't put it past him."

Mayweather is reportedly eyeing King to be his new promoter.

Meanwhile, German Arthur Abraham also recognized the Filipino boxing champion's exceptional talent.

"I take my hat off to him. He's such a great phenomenal

"We will miss them all. But **Pacquiao** fighter. He's won everything

there is to win and he's been so impressive," said Abraham, a former IBF middleweight king.

However, Abraham said that Pacquiao has to get past the hurdle posed by the undefeated Mayweather.

"All Pacquiao has to do now is to beat Mayweather. That's what's left for him and it would be very good for him to beat him, because he's a phenomenal fighter and I have a lot of respect for him," he said.

Despite being all praises for Pacquiao, Abraham declared that he thinks that the 7-division champion will lose to Mayweather.

"I think Mayweather will win this fight," he stated. "He's such a big talent, the type of talent you get once every hundred years. He's got a big mouth, but he can follow it up inside the ring. So he's a very, very good boxer."

Meantime, even National Basketball Association (NBA) star Paul Pierce of the Boston Celtics had something to say about Pacquiao.

"I love Manny," said Pierce, a self-confessed boxing fan, in an interview with FanHouse.com.

He went on to say that Pacquiao is "the best pound-forpound boxer in the world." (ABS-CBN)

### CNMI

From Page 28

Tebuteb thanked the athletes for rising to the challenge in Palau and making history in the 2010 Games.

Eugenio, for his part, said while CNMI athletics achieved its goal of becoming No. 1 in the region, NMA shouldn't stop there. He said the athletics team should now train its sights to the 20-and-under athletics championships in Cairns, Australia next month and the 2011 Pacific Games next summer in New Caledonia.

The occasion, however, was bitter sweet as it also served as a send-off party for four members of the 2010 CNMI national athletics team in Palau—twins Yvonne and Yvette Bennett, Heartim Williams, and D.J. Ngirchongor.

The Bennett twins are scheduled to leave today for the U.S. mainland, where they will continue their studies at Boise State University.

Williams, meanwhile, will go to college in Nebraska and Ngirchongor is set to join the U.S. Marines.

Rangamar said he will always have fond memories of the twins and wished them well in their studies at Boise State.

"What sets them apart is their attitude. Both are self motivated and have positive attitude toward training. They never once complained about any training regimens given to them. Throughout the years, Yvonne and Yvette developed a better understanding of why we did things certain ways and what it took to get there. Both have great attitude and are role models for our community and youths," he said.

Rangamar, meanwhile, said that Williams has a lot of potential and could see him continue running track in college.

"Heartim was an on-and-off athlete with potential in middle distance but liked other sports as well so he didn't really focused on track until months before the Games. He's a great kid. He wants to try out for cross country in a small college and I wish him luck," he said.

Ngirchongor, Rangamar believes, could've given CNMI sprint king Tyrone Omar a run for his money if he stayed longer in track.

"He has a great work ethic and potential but picked up track late. I really wished he had picked up the sport earlier," he said.

Rangamar said losing the four athletes is tough for the CNMI and NMA, but added that the sport will move on and develop other athletes. He added that in the case of the Bennetts, Yvonne and Yvette have already committed to the 2014 Micronesian Games in Pohnpei.

Their mother, Lilian, also joked that NMA should send the twins roundtrip tickets to guarantee their participation in quadrennial event.

we all must move on sometime in our lives. This is just the beginning of a long journey in the game of life for these kids," said Rangamar.

The CNMI athletics team was so dominating in the Games that it even humbled host Palau, which had more than twice the number of entries in track and field.

Jacque Wonenberg won the most medals for the CNMI in athletics with nine, winning six gold medals, including the two relays, two silver, and a bronze.

Yvonne Bennett was next with five gold medals, counting the two relay races. She dominated the 200m, 400m, and 100m runs. She ruled the 100m sprint in record-breaking fashion, posting Micronesian's best time of 12.68 seconds.

In the men's division, Ryan Ichihara had a gold, Nick Gross and Clayton Kenty each won a silver, and Tyrone Omar went home with two bronze medals.

### TRIATHLETES

From Page 28

men's individual race.

The triathlon competition in Palau had a short course instead of the originally planned Olympic distance race and surprisingly it favored Carey and Daly, who liked joining long distance events.

"We wished the course had been a full Olympic distance one. But despite the change in the course distance, it was a well-organized race. The people in Palau were cordial and very helpful. On the race day, the volunteers and organization was outstanding," Berger said.

"We also wished that Guam had fielded a full team, since they were our main competition. I don't think anyone could have bested Mieko, but the guys had a tougher time," he added.

Mieko, despite a torn muscle, finished first in the 750-meter swim, third in the bike, and second in the run leg. She completed the race in one hour, 14 minutes, and 37 seconds—about 30 minutes ahead of the second female finisher. Daly clocked in at 1:15:18, Mancao submitted 1:18:41, and Tenorio posted 1:19:50.

"Mieko as I have repeatedly said, is the best woman triathlete in Micronesia," Berger said.

"Lewie was a bit injured; otherwise, we might have swept the men's competition. He was in bronze position going into the run. Matt was energetic as expected, and had the best run of all. His enthusiasm and exuberance made us all feel younger. Kieran continues to amaze us, older athletes, and had he not gone off the course at the end of the swim, he would have made it very difficult for Mieko to finish first," Berger added.

### WINGS

From Page 28

I took it," exclaimed Tibayan after the game.

"There was like three seconds left and I saw him open so I just threw it...I admit I was very surprised it went in, but I am very happy for [Tibiyan]," said teammate Roger Herrera.

In the first quarter, Grillin' jumped ahead by five, 16-11, as MGD came out a little cold and unorganized.

Grillin's Lerio Pagarao and Rocyl Ritual led the way with seven and five points, respectively. MGD's Von Tamayo tried to get it started for his team with a dime and a 3-ball, but could not gather any support.

Then in the second quarter, Grillin' stretched it to a ninepoint lead, 41-32.

MGD may have missed one of their enforcers down low, as Aba Tagle did not play due to an injury and even though their mainstay Art Trajano was there to fight for rebounds, it was impossible to rebound a ball that goes in the hoop. Grillin' shooters were on target all night last Monday and everything seemed to find its way through the net.

Grillin's Herrera and Pagarao led the charge with 12 and 11 markers, respectively; Herrera hit two 3-pointers in the effort.

MGD did rally back in the second half to trim Grillin's lead

to four, 58-54.

MGD's Alex Lauron led the way with seven points and received much needed support from Tamayo's six points and Michael Achas' five markers.

Grillin's Herrera managed a string of eight points to help keep his team ahead going into the last period.

The Grillin's offense stalled a little in the fourth and MGD fought back to tie it up, 64-64, with 3:30 left on the clock. A minute later, the game was knotted at 66-all and then locked up again at 68-all after a couple of free throws by Lauron with under two minutes to go.

MGD then took a brief 69-68 lead after a free throw by Jojo Garon, but Grillin's Pagarao answered back with two freebies to reclaim the lead. Lauron then scored, but Grillin's Herrera matched it to take the lead back, 72-71, with 1:05 on the clock.

MGD's Achas then hit a free throw to tie it up again. The score was tied again at 74-all after Grillin's Pagarao and MGD's Tamayo both made their free throws and with four second left on the clock, Grillin's Tibiyan caught the outlet pass from Herrera and worked his way down court where he drained a Hail Mary shot from about five feet behind the 3-point line for the walk off victory.

In the first semifinal matchup, fourth-seeded Wings Travel, led by James Camacho, pulled off their own impressive upset victory over first place Satbahi, 72-71, after playing from behind virtually the whole game.

Wings Travel did win the first quarter battle by a point, 16-15, as both teams struggled on the offensive end.

Manolo Manalo and Ron Gamboa led the way for Wings Travel with six and four points, respectively as Satbahi's Rolly Paraiso and Angel Hernaez kept their team in it with five and four points.

Then Satbahi shot ahead by nine points at the half, 35-26.

Satbahi's Badong Camacho led the charge with six points and the team's defense held Wings Travel to only five buckets in the quarter.

Wings Travel regrouped after halftime to trim Satbahi's lead to four, 56-52, thanks in part by James Camacho's seven points. Satbahi's Badong Camacho tallied eight markers, however, to help keep his team ahead.

Badong Camacho did not show up in the last period, but his teammate Andy Mortos provided eight points for the favored Satbahi squad.

Wings Travel's James Camacho, on the other hand, came up huge in the fourth with 10 clutch points.

With just under three minutes

to go, Satbahi led 69-60, but Wings Travel's defense forced a relentless comeback. In the final minute, Wings

Travel's James Camacho hit two

big free throws and later dropped an even bigger two-point field goal from the top of the key with 11 seconds left on the clock to give his team their first lead of the quarter, 72-71. Notably, Wings Travel's defense held Satbahi to just one basket in the last three minutes of the game.

"Good morning! I was confident with my shot and I knew it was going to go in as soon as it left my fingers, " exclaimed James Camacho after the game.

"Hats off to [Satbahi] because they really are a very good team. During the timeouts I just kept encouraging my guys to stay focused and keep their composure out on the court," said Wings Travel coach Emir Abuen.

### **First Game**

Wings Travel 72 – Camacho 23, Manalo 13, Itaas 12, Gamboa 9, Morales 7, Angelhart 6, Dayrit 2

Satbahi 71 – Camacho 18, Mortos 13, Paraiso 13, Concepcion 8, Hernandez 8, Tengco 8, Velasco 2, Siriban 1.

Scoring by quarters: 16-15, 26-35, 52-56, 72-71.

### **Second Game**

Grillin' 77 -Herrera 32, Pagarao 29, Ritual 5, Tibiyan 5, Hernandez 3, Sangoyo 2.

MGD 74 -Tamayo 31, Lauron 16, Trajano 9, Lansang 7, Garon 5, Achas 3, Barbo 2.

Scoring by quarters: 16-11, 41-32, 58-54, 77-74.

## TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

### **MLB STANDINGS**

### **AMERICAN LEAGUE East Division** W L Pct GB

New York	72	46	.610	_
Tampa Bay	72	46	.610	_
Boston	67	52	.563	5Ω
Toronto	63	55	.534	9
Baltimore	42	77	.353	30 1/2

### **Central Division**

Minnesota	68	50	.576	_	
Chicago	65	53	.551	3	
Detroit	58	60	.492	10	
Cleveland	49	69	.415	19	
Kansas City	49	69	415	19	

### **West Division**

Texas	67	50	.573	_
Los Angeles	60	59	.504	8
Oakland	57	60	.487	10
Seattle	46	73	.387	22

### **NATIONAL LEAGUE East Division**

Atlanta	69	49	.585	_
Philadelphia	66	51	.564	2 1/2
New York	59	59	.500	10

57 60 .487 11 1/2 Florida 51 67 .432 18

### **Central Division**

Ochtical Division								
Cincinnati	67	51	.568	_				
St. Louis	65	51	.560	1				
Milwaukee	55	64	.462	12 1/2				
Houston	51	66	.436	15 1/2				
Chicago	50	69	.420	17 1/2				
Pittsburgh	40	78	.339	27				

### **West Division**

San Diego	70	47	.598	_
San Francisco	67	52	.563	4
Colorado	61	56	.521	9
Los Angeles	60	59	.504	11
Arizona	47	72	.395	24

### Yesterday's Games

Pittsburgh 7, Florida 1 Atlanta 4, L.A. Dodgers 3 N.Y. Mets 3, Houston 1 San Diego 9, Chicago Cubs 5 Detroit 3, N.Y. Yankees 1 Baltimore 5, Seattle 4, 11 innings Tampa Bay 6, Texas 4 Toronto 3, Oakland 1

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

# Sign-up for Rota triathlon still on



Organizers of the 17th Annual Rota Blue Triathlon is still accepting registra-

tion for the event that will kick off on Nov. 13.

Interested participants can register in any of the three divisions, namely men's and women's A and B events, and team category. The A division is for soloists and will cover a distance of 1.5 kilometers in the swim leg, 40 km in the bike race, and 10 km in the run part. The B division is also for individual entries and will have a longer course as the run leg will be 2 km, bike race is 90 km, and run part is 21 km. The team event will follow the A soloist course.

There will be no time limits for the team and A soloist divisions, while the B course must be completed in eight hours or less. Entry fee for A and B divisions are \$80 and 100, respectively, while registration cost for the team event is \$70 per member. Payments should be made in cash at the front desk of the Rota Resort and



дарал's Masayuki Matsumaru poses in front of the finish line of the 16th Annual Rota Blue Triathlon last year.

Saipan Coed Soccer League kicks off Aug. 23

Country Club on Nov. 12.

A race briefing will be held at 6:30pm at the Rota Resort on Nov. 12, while the event will start at 6:30am at the East Harbor. Participants are allowed to wear wetsuits and are required to have helmets.

The Top 3 finishers in each division will be awarded prizes at the banquet at 6:30pm at the East Harbor.

Last year, Japanese triathletes dominated the Rota race. Masayuki Matsumaru crossed the finish line of the 1.5-kilometer swim, 40-km bike, and 10-km run men's A division in 2:10:26, beating compatriots Yu Yumoto (2:13:52) and Taro Shirato (2:24:20).

The Top 3 finishers in the women's division were also from Japan with Kaoru Suzuki (2:47:18) placing first, followed by Nahoko Niwa (2:58:56) and Aya Kimura (3:06:03).

Guam's Cameron O'Neal topped the men's B division, foiling another Japan sweep. Yuta Kobayashi placed second behind O'Neal, while Tatsuo Shimizu came in third.

slots are currently available for

In the team event, Saipan's ing the Rota Blue Triathlon in Amanda J. Allen, Jackie Van Dam, and Tamiko Winkfield finished first with a time of 3:01:39, while John Jenkins and David Baker placed third after submitting 3:28:15. Japan's Motoharu Ueda did all three legs and finished second with a total time of 3:09:20.

Kiyokazu Fitness Club Triathlon Club of Japan is host- com. (Roselyn B. Monroyo)

coordination with the Marianas Visitors Authority and the Rota Mayor's Office.

To register or for more information, contact KFC Triathlon Club Japan at 81-428-31-4911 or e-mail at kfc-onishi@gem.hi-ho. net.jp or Frank Tudela of MVA Saipan at 1-670-664-3200/01 or e-mail at ftudela@mymarianas.

## Buddies Right There!, D'Pirates Strikers take pole positions



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO Buddies Locals is in second place with a 33-18 win-loss record in the A Division of the Bud Light Dart League.



the Bud Light Dart League saw Buddies Right There!

and D'Pirates take the lead in Division A and Ladies League, respectively.

Buddies Right There! improved to a 35-15 win-loss mark following its 11-6 victory against Naked Fish Boys last Monday at Bud's Bar.

The rest of the standings in Division A has Buddies Locals in second place with a 33-18 record, followed by Charlie's Primos (28-23), Naked Fish Boys (26-25), Buddies Flying Dartsmen (24-27), D'Pirates CK-Destroyers (21-30), Buddies Bud Brothers (21-30), and Charlie's Vargas Snipers (15-36).

Jeff Barit of D'Pirates CK-Destroyers recorded a 160 to get the high in award for the week, while Buddies Flying Dartsmen's Wilson Quiban took the high out with his 112.

D'Pirates Strikers, for its part, (Saipan Tribune)

Week 3 of continued to lord it over the Ladies League following a 12-3 victory over Sande's Megatouch at the D'Pirates Bar.

The win was the 37th in 45 games for the D'Pirates Strikers, while the loss pushed Sande's Megatouch deeper down the cellar with a 13-32 mark.

Jonny's Yakau (32-13), Gaia Lady Gagas (24-21), D'Pirates Mama's Sniper (24-21), Buddies Tipiyeew (17-28), Buddies Pink Panthers (17-28), and USSP Kmal Sechelim (16-29) make up the rest of the teams in the Ladies League.

D'Pirates Mama's Sniper's Keishia Nepail cornered the high in with his 100 points, while D'Pirates Strikers's Rufina Guevarra took the high out plum with her 124.

The Bud Light Dart League is organized by the Saipan Electronic Darts Association and is sponsored by MARPAC and Bud Light. For more information, call league secretary

### new players who are interested in ball League is joining the league. gearing up for



The Saipan Coed Footits second year

with the fall season set to kick off on Aug. 23.

Registration starts on Aug. 18 with the deadline the day of the kick-off date. Last year 120 players participated on six teams.

"This league is designed purely as a fun league and last year most of the participants were comprised of soccer players from the men's division, women's division, and some U18 youth players. All matches are played in a non-competitive mode and the SCFL is also open to beginners who want to learn



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The Saipan Coed Football League is expanding to have two more teams to accommodate more players this season.

Jhie Vallo.

After the schedule is formulated, a daily game will be scheduled to start at 5pm every Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and

the sport," said SCFL organizer Friday at the CPA Airport Field. The SCFL is formatted as simply a fun and friendly league so there will not be an elimination playoff at the end. Moreover, SCFL expects eight teams this season and

"Last year we only had six

teams and unfortunately some interested players were not admitted because of the full rosters. To remedy this, we are expanding the league with two more teams this season so that we can accommodate everyone," added Vallo. Returning players are encouraged to register again with their captains and managers.

For more information and/ or registration, contact Vallo at 898-4892, email her at jhievallo@yahoo.com, email Dr. David Khorram at david@marianaseye.com. (Walter Sutherland)

## Some 144 expected to take part in Docomo golf



expected to year's Docomo

Pacific Golf Classic that takes place on Sept. 4 at the Laolao Bay Golf Resort.

The telecommunications provider also announced that proceeds from the one-day tournament will benefit the Marianas Tourism Education Council.

Incidentally, Docomo Pacific general manager James Nelson met with MTEC officials at the Marianas Visitors Authority last Aug. 11. Among those present at the meeting were MTEC treasurer Nhing Reyes, MVA Community Programs manager Martin Duenas, MTEC president Ed Cho, MVA Public Relations representative Catherine Perry

About 144 par- Anderson, MTEC member Rose ticipants are Ada, and MTEC vice president Vicky Benavente. MTEC works compete in this to increase public awareness of the importance of tourism and to encourage visitor hospitality.

> The Docomo Pacific Golf Classic has an entry fee of \$95, which is inclusive of cart and green fees, on-course refreshments, admittance to the awards banquet, and more.

> Interested participants are encouraged to apply at Docomo Pacific's Gualo Rai location. Application forms can also be found at local golf courses and at MITA travel locations.

Docomo Pacific, Laolao Bay Golf Resort, DFS Galleria Saipan, First Hawaiian Bank, the Tan Siu Lin Foundation, the Saipan Tribune, Pacifica Insurance, and Sand Castle



The Marianas Tourism Education Council met last Aug. 11 with Docomo Pacific general manager James Nelson, third from left, to discuss the upcoming Docomo Pacific Golf Classic on Sept. 4 that will benefit MTEC. Pictured at the Marianas Visitors Authority office are, from left, MTEC treasurer Nhing Reyes, MVA Community Programs manager Martin Duenas, Nelson, MTEC president Ed Cho, MVA Public Relations representative Catherine Perry Anderson, MTEC member Rose Ada, and MTEC vice president Vicky Benavente.

sors of the tournament.

tact James Nelson at 483-4215 Dinner Theater are the sponor email inelson@docomopa-For more information, concific.com. (Walter Sutherland)

### D-Pirate's takes another shot at 8-ball tourney



Sports Bar will take another crack at starting a weekly 8-ball

billiards tournament this Friday when it hosts the 8-Ball Pool Tournament.

Management said it cancelled the tournament last Aug. 13 because of the lack of players, but is confident that this coming Friday more cue artists will join the weekly pool competition.

Game time is 7:30pm and en-

D - Pirate's trance fee is only \$10 for each incoming player and registration is still open. Games are set to take place every Friday with cash prizes, a trophy, and more awarded to weekly winners.

According to the management of D-Pirate's Sports Bar, all games will be played according to the Billiard Congress of America regulations. There will be individual elimination. For more information, contact Susan at 235-3663.

(Walter J. Sutherland)







## **CNMI** athletics bids adieu to Bennetts

## » Williams, Ngirchongor also leaving



Yvonne, left, and Yvette Bennett pose with their parents Ambrose and Lilian while holding the Northern Marianas Athletics banner during the organization's 7th Micronesian Games victory party Monday night at Coral Ocean Point poolside. Inset, track and field athletes, NMA coaches, and the Bennetts pose for a group shot.

By MARK RABAGO

mark\_rabago@saipantribune.com ASSISTANT EDITOR

rack and field athletes who took part in the 7th Palau Micronesian Games were recognized during an

informal victory party "Tia de Preril" gold, five silver, and Monday night organized by Northern Mar-

Team Marianas dominated the competition at the Palau National

ianas Athletics.

seven bronze medals to walk away with the overall championship. Monday evening's

gathering was held at the Coral Ocean Point Track and Field, winning 13 poolside and was attended by

NMA president Rep. Ramon Tebuteb, Micronesian Athletics representative Robin Eugenio, NMA head coach Elias Rangamar, and majority of the 35 athletes that competed in the Games in Palau.

See CNMI on Page 26

ROSELYN B. MONROYO Mieko Carey, left, and Kieran Daly are all smiles after winning the gold medal in the women's and men's divisions of the triathlon competition in the 7th Micronesian Games in Palau early this month.

## Triathletes: Palau trip was worth it

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO roselyn\_monroyo@saipantribune.com

Bringing home three gold medas and one bronze from the 7th Micronesian Games made the CNMI triathletes' long journey to Palau all worth it.

"We had a long way to go for a 75-minute race, but it was all worth it. Our team's performance was phenomenal," CNMI triathlon team coach/ representative Joshua Berger said in an e-mail to Saipan Tribune yesterday.

Berger along with triathletes Mieko Carey, Kieran Daly, Matthew Mancao, and Lewie Tenorio left Saipan for Palau on Aug. 4, making a stop in Guam first before heading to the host island-nation of the quadrennial meet.

After arriving in Palau on the same day, the group waited for four more days to compete. On the day of the tournament (Aug. 8), Carey and Tenorio were nursing injuries, but still competed and helped the CNMI win the most medals in the triathlon contest.

Carey was the first overall finisher, while Daly topped the men's division. Mancao placed third, while Tenorio came in fourth. With Carey and Daly ruling their respective divisions and Mancao saving a bronze medal, the CNMI took the gold in the team event. Guam's Mark Walters, who finished second in the men's division, foiled a 1-2-3 finish for the CNMI in the

See TRIATHLETES on Page 26

## Wings Travel, Grillin' pull off upsets

By WALTER SUTHERLAND



Wings Travel both pulled off upsets against fa-

Grillin' and

vored teams Monday night at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court to advance to the winners bracket of the Miller Lite Invitational Basketball League.

The Final Four incorporate the FIBA format so the winning teams will play each other on Wednesday night at 6pm to see who gets an automatic bid to the finals, while Satbahi will take on MGD in

the losers bracket.

All teams still have a chance to make it to the championship match because the winner of the losers bracket match will play the loser of the winners bracket game for the second championship berth.

In the final moments, the third seedd Grillin' squad was almost forced into overtime by the second place team MGD, but Dick Tibiyan made a miracle buzzer-beating 3-pointer for the win as time expired with the ball in the air, 77-74.

"It was a very physical game and I knew [MGD] was tired...I saw an open shot and

See WINGS on Page 26



Wings Travel advanced into the winners bracket of the Miller Lite Invitational Basketball League after dishing out No. 1 seed Satbahi squad their first loss of the 2010 season.



Grillin' players pose for a photo after hanging on to beat MGD, 77-74, off a buzzer-beater to advance into the winners bracket in what was Monday night's second upset of the night at the Gualo Rai Bas-